FAYETTEVILLE OBSERVER.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

From and after this date, no name of a new subscriber will be entered without payment in advance, nor will the paper be sent to such subscribers for a longer time than is paid for.

Such of our old subscribers as desire to take the paper on this system will please notify us when making remittances.

Jan'y 1, 1858.

Your Country is calling you!

HAVING been detailed on recruiting service for a few days, I am authorized to announce the partial suspension of the operation of Conscript law, so as to permit Conscripts and others so disposed to volunteer in Companies to suit themselves. Thus by volunteering you will all avoid being forced into the Conscript camp. I am anxious to receive recruits for Capt J. R. Murchison's company from Cumberland county, or if desired, I will receive any who wish to join any other companies in this command. To those who wish to avoid being forced into the war, I make an earnest appeal to them to come forward, volunteer like true-hearted patriots in the cause of their country, to aid in driving back the invading foe entirely from our soil.

I shall be happy to meet any who feel disposed to volunteer at the following times and place:

In Harnett, at Alexander Morison's, Feb'y 14th.
" " " " " 21st.
" " " " " 28th.

D. A. PATTERSON,
Lieut. Co. E, 8th Reg't N. C. T.

Feb'y 11, 1863. 2-3tpd

300 Negroes Wanted.

THE Undersigned desire to hire Three Hundred hands to work on the grading of the Chatham Railroad.

The line runs through a healthy country, on a high ridge, and all hands employed on the road will be well fed and cared for. We will hire either by the month or the year. Apply to us at Cary, 8 miles west of Raleigh, or at Haywood, or Lockville, Chatham county, N. C.

I. N. CLEGG & CO., Contractors.

References: K. P. Battle, Pres't Chatham R. R. Company, Raleigh, and W. J. Hawkins, Pres't Raleigh & Gaston R. R. Company, Raleigh.

Feb'y 10, 1863. [R. S.] 2-19t

Valuable Land for Sale.

ONE Tract on Little River in Randolph county, containing 525 acres, on which is a first rate Dwelling and Kitchen, nearly new, with other out-houses; and also a valuable orchard. This tract contains about 50 acres of bottom land on said River.

One other Tract containing 300 acres, with Dwelling and other out-houses, about 60 acres under cultivation. This tract has valuable Timber, and is mostly level land.

The above tracts of land are valuable wheat, corn, oats and tobacco lands.

One other tract containing 800 acres. This tract abounds with valuable timber, and is very valuable grain land.

The above Lands are South of Asheboro' about 15 miles, and North of Troy, in Montgomery county, about 12 miles. The locality is in as healthy a portion of the State as any in North Carolina.

Refugees desiring to purchase lands will find the above to be very desirable property. Terms easy. My address is Caraway, Randolph county, N. C.

NATHAN SPENCER.

Jan'y 3, 1863. 91*8tpd

Bank Stock for Sale.

ONE HUNDRED AND TEN SHARES of the capital Stock of the Bank of Clarendon for sale.

Apply to JNO. W. SANDFORD, Cash'r.

Feb. 4, 1863 1201*2w

LOST.

ONE Box of CLOTHING, directed to S. P. Klarpp, in care of Col. C. E. Leete, Fayetteville, N. C. It was sent from Wilmington on the Carolina, and arrived safe on the wharf at Fayetteville, where it was last heard from. I will give Five Dollars reward for any information so that I can get it, or for the delivery of it to D. B. McGougan at Dondarroch P. O., Robeson County, N. C.

S. P. KLARPP, Wilmington, N. C.
Private Co. D, 51st Reg't N. C. T.

Feb'y 5. 1200-3tpd

State of North Carolina,
MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Jan'y Term, 1863.

THE following list of Lands was returned to said Term for an order of sale for the taxes due thereon, by the Sheriff of said County:

Names.	No. acres.	Val.	Amt of tax due	For the year.
John Caddell,	100	$ 50	66c	1860-'61
John B McRae	100	100	1 72	1860-61
Alex McKay,	300	150	2 58	1860-'61
Daniel Chisholm,	50	50	61	1860-'61
M Q Waddell & Co.	1920	960	37 74	1858-'59-'60-'61
Alexander McRae,	350	150	2 58	1860-'61
John Gibson's heirs,	100	100	1 72	1860-'61
Burwell Johnson,	50	50	86	1860-'61
Arch'd Lammond,	200	500	3 59	1860
Daniel Lammond,	130	130	95	1860
Lockey Lucas,	82	82	52	1860
C N Hall,	84	350	10 12	1859-'60 and 1861
Paul Barringer,	30	300	5 15	1860-'61
Charles F Fisher,	1 Lot		27 47	1860 '61
Robt McRae,	120	120	18 15	1860-'61
Shafer, Kizer & Co,	5450	2735	48 77	1860-'61
Nelson Merritt,	100	100	5 77	1858-59 and 1860
Sarah Merritt,	100	100	1 62	1859-'60 and 1861

J. S. SPENCER, Clerk.

Jan'y 30, 1863. 99*8tpd

State of North Carolina,
MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Jan'y Term, 1863.
A. H. Sanders, Adm'r, *vs.* Thomas J. Parnell, Amos Parnell and others.
Petition to make Real Estate Assets.

IT appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that Henry T. Parnell, one of the Defendants in this cause, resides beyond the limits of this State: It is therefore on motion ordered by the Court, that publication be made in the Fayetteville Observer, notifying the said Defendant of the filing of this petition, and that unless he appears at the next term of this Court and answers the petition, the same will be taken pro confesso and heard ex parte as to him.

Witness, J. S. Spencer, Clerk of said Court, at office in Troy, the 1st Monday in January 1863.

1*6tpd] J. S. SPENCER, C. C. C.

State of North Carolina,
RICHMOND COUNTY.

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Jan'y Term, 1863.
Jas. A. Covington, Adm'r of Jno. P. Covington, dec'd, *vs.* Eliza J. Covington, et al.
Petition for Settlement.

IT appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, that the Defendant, Eliza J. Covington, is a non-resident of this State: It is ordered by the Court that publication be made in the Fayetteville Observer for six weeks successively, notifying the said Defendant of the filing of this petition, and that unless she appear at the next Term of this Court and answer the petition, the same will be taken pro confesso and heard ex parte as to her.

Witness, Louis H. Webb, Clerk of our said Court, at Office in Rockingham, the 3d Monday in Jan'y 1863.

1*6tpd] L. H. WEBB, C. C. C.

OBSERVER.
FAYETTEVILLE.

THURSDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 12, 1863.

THE FINANCIAL POLICY OF THE STATE.—We need scarcely invite the public attention to the following able and interesting letter of Chief Justice Pearson on the above and kindred subjects:—

RICHMOND HILL, Feb. 3d, 1863.

Editors of Observer:—I have read with attention the facts and suggestions stated by your correspondent in reply to the brief remarks made by me in a letter to the Senior Editor, in reference to the measure authorizing the issue of $1,500,000 State notes. It seems to me that the view taken by him is not sufficiently comprehensive. Of what moment is it that State notes command a small premium? a difference to be attributed to the fact, not that State notes are good, but Confederate notes are worse, which very difference will tend further to depreciate the latter? As long as State bonds can be disposed of at par for Confederate notes, the State will lose nothing; so a necessity to prevent [illegible] cannot be urged as a ground for striking this indi[illegible] blow at the credit of Confederate notes. Your [correspondent] does not assail the broad position, "Let the States issue treasury notes, and Congress continue to issue Confederate notes, and as a matter of course, a general bankruptcy must follow." The magnitude of the evil of a depreciated currency, cannot be over estimated. Even now there is no standard of value; hence the extortion and speculation of which such loud complaints are made by the people. How is the war to be carried on? At the present depreciation, the Confederate States expend $5,000,000 to purchase army supplies that ought to be procured for $1,000,000. Let the depreciation go on, it will take 10 millions—20 millions 40 millions to buy the worth of one million. Depreciation, like a stone falling, increases its momentum in geometrical proportion. Such was the case in the revolutionary war. The Confederate States must issue notes as long as they have any credit, even should it take one hundred dollars to buy a pound of powder; and considering the tremendous proportions of this war, if it is to be carried on with a depreciated currency, who can estimate the accumulated amount of the public debt?

The danger should be met *in limine;* and discarding all temporary expedients, a blow should be struck at the root of the evil. *The credit of the Confederate States must be maintained.* I am pleased to see that the authorities at Richmond fully appreciate the importance of this subject; and I believe it is fully appreciated by the people also, and have no doubt if it is deemed necessary, in the wisdom of Congress, in order to support public credit and carry on the war (which since the policy of emancipation has been adopted by our enemy has become a war not merely for independence but for our existence,) the people will cheerfully submit to a war tax of *one-fifth* of their annual productions and income of every kind. Many now pay that amount indirectly, as the price of food and other necessaries of life; but it goes into the hands of extortioners and speculators, and every good citizen will be easily convinced that it is better to pay the amount to the government, and thereby enable it to remove the cause of the evil. When England was fighting France and most of the other powers of Europe, her people submitted to a war tax of four shillings in the pound. It was enough for them to know that their country called for the sacrifice.

Another source of supply, "particular loans," that is, borrowing on bonds or other security not to circulate as money, has been tried; but I fear from the solicitude to obtain the endorsements of the States, it is nearly exhausted; at all events, it can only be relied on to a limited extent. The remaining source "general loans," that is borrowing from the public by notes "to bearer," to circulate as currency, is the most important, and its efficiency depends on maintaining public credit. The question is, ought the State to adopt any measure which will cripple this resource by interfering with its full exercise? I put my objection to the issuing of notes by the State, on two broad grounds:

1st. Only a given amount of notes can be suspended in circulation. The amount varies. In stirring times, like the present, it is much larger than in times of quiet; still, it is a fixed rule of trade that only a given amount can be suspended in circulation, and if it be exceeded, depreciation follows as a matter of course, like the deposite in a supersaturated fluid. So, admitting the point of saturation to have been reached, it is clear that every note put in circulation by a State excludes its amount of Confederate notes, or causes depreciation *pro tanto*, and thus cripples this resource of the Confederate States. I appeal to history in support of this conclusion. No one can read the 4th vol. of Marshall's Life of Washington, and not be convinced that the emission of notes by the respective States was one of the principal causes of the depreciation of Continental money. "In 1780 Congress earnestly recommended to the States to suspend the future emission, and take measures to call out of circulation the paper already issued by them, as it produced general depreciation; this recommendation was unheeded." (Marshall 212.) Depreciation, notwithstanding the temporary expedients resorted to, affected State, as well as Continental money; and would, in all human probability, have proved fatal to the revolution, but for the timely aid of France, both *in money* and men. In framing the Constitution of the U. S., our ancestors endeavored to profit by their bitter experience. Full power is conferred on Congress "to borrow money on the credit of the U. S." This power it is conceded embraces both particular loans and general loans; but in regard to the States, while the power to borrow money by particular loans is not interfered with, there is a prohibition against general loans, or issuing notes "to bearer" to circulate as money. "No State shall emit bills of credit." This prohibition is manifestly made for the reason that the emission of bills of credit would cripple that resource of the general gov't which is principally to be relied on in emergencies. The same full power to Congress, and the same prohibition in regard to the States is contained in the Constitution of the Confederate States. Is not its wisdom fully proved by the condition of our currency? Does not the reason now apply with full force, and should it not be observed, not simply as the dictate of sound policy, but as "*the supreme law of the land.*"

Or, if we suppose this prohibition not to apply so as to forbid the States from issuing notes to circulate as money, still it must be conceded the soundness of that conclusion is questioned by many, who attribute it to "a necessity," in the outset of a war of "gigantic proportions," for which neither the States nor the Confederate States were prepared. This necessity having in a great measure passed away, as the Confederate States bear the expenses of the war, is it not the part of wisdom for the States to refrain from the exercise of a doubtful power which obviously interferes with an undoubted power of the Confederate States, the unrestricted exercise of which is indispensable in order to raise funds to carry on the war.

It is said, State bonds will cripple the resources of the Confederate States by diminishing the number of lenders. That may be true to some extent, but there will be a counteracting benefit to a larger extent. By taking Confederate notes for bonds, credit is given to them; and their use for the purposes of the State will increase the capacity for holding them in circulation, and thus a larger amount may be issued, without danger of depreciation.

If the States depart from their peculiar sphere, there is reason to apprehend that the Confederate States will do so likewise. When one body in a system leaves its place, it is apt, by the laws of attraction or repulsion, to disturb some other body of the system. The heavenly system is so arranged by the laws of its Creator, that each body is forced to revolve in its own peculiar sphere; hence all is harmony.

Our political system is the work of man. It harmonizes in theory, but in practice, if the States disregard a prohibition, that act may lead to usurpation of power by the Confederate States in order to counteract the effect. In plain words, it is already suggested that to force up the credit of Confederate notes, and drive State notes out of circulation, Congress should make Confederate notes a legal tender! The supposed power of Congress to interfere with the private concerns of the citizens of the States, and to impair the obligation of contracts by the wholesale, is deduced by this course of reasoning: "There is an express prohibition that no State shall make any thing a legal tender but gold or silver, or pass any law impairing the obligation of contracts. There is no such prohibition as to Congress—therefore, Congress has the power"!!—leaving out of view the fundamental principle that Congress has no power that is not conferred by the Constitution; hence, no prohibition was necessary; whereas the States have all legislative powers except such as are prohibited; hence as to the States, a prohibition was necessary.

"Where there is a will, there is a way." The human mind is so constituted, that if convinced a certain measure is necessary to attain a great good, or avert a great evil, it can with facility make suggestions and draw conclusions so as to persuade the judgment to overrule or disregard any obstacle that may be in the way. This is particularly the case when passion is aroused, by the fact that some unwarranted act of others has caused the good to be less easily attained, or the evil less easily averted. So I was not surprised to learn that the emission of such large amounts of State notes is made the ground on which Congress, as a matter of necessity, and in order to preserve unimpaired its exclusive power to issue notes to circulate as money, is urged to make such notes a legal tender, in order to force up their credit and drive State notes out of circulation; although in calm moments, when there is no such disturbing cause, every one's conscience will tell him that, apart from all constitutional provisions, such an interference with the private rights of the citizen is a plain violation of every principle of moral law and of natural justice. In an emergency, for instance, when an army is in the country, goods may be impressed, or my house destroyed, for the public safety, but the principle does not extend so as to give power to deprive A of his debt, and discharge B of its payment, for the collateral purpose of sustaining the credit of a depreciated currency. In England's greatest trial, 1797, when every one believed the safety of the nation depended on maintaining the credit of the Bank of England, Mr. Pitt did not attempt to make the notes of the Bank a legal tender in payment of debts; but was content with the provision, that no creditor should have the right of holding his debtor to bail, and thereby compel "an appearance," without which there could be no judgment, if the debtor had tendered payment in the notes of the Bank; and this power was put on the ground of a suspension of *the remedy*, which did not affect *the right.* (Miller's Hist. Eng., cont. Hume & Smollet, pages 421—699.) Strange as may seem the proposition that Congress has power to discharge a debt, either qualifiedly by stopping interest, or absolutely by the extinction of principal and interest, upon a tender of Confederate notes, and that not merely of debts hereafter to be contracted, but of existing debts contracted before the Confederate States had a political existence; yet the proposition has been announced, and there may be reason to fear that many will be able to *persuade themselves* that it is right, and not inconsistent with the Constitution; particularly if passion be roused by the emission of large amounts of State notes, to which, with too much truth, will be attributed the depreciation of Confederate notes, and the consequent inability of the Confederate States to avail itself of its resources to the fullest extent.

These are the reflections of one who is in a great measure removed from the agitations of the day, but is viewing with deep solicitude every event which may influence the fate of our country; and who cherishes the hope that the wisdom of her statesmen may equal the valor of her troops.

Yours, &c. R. M. PEARSON.

HISTORICAL.—The interesting nature of the facts, not less than the high character of the writer, induces us to give more space than usual to a communication in these war times, on the condition of North Carolina anterior to and at the adoption of the Constitution of the United States. The writer, in a private note, suggests that we might embody the substance of his article in an Editorial paragraph, but we prefer to give it in extenso, as he has written and compiled it, not that we think it at all sustains—even if that were the author's intention—a right of secession, (which, though really the same in effect as revolution, has in party controversies acquired a technical meaning different from it;) but because it does show that just previous to the adoption of the Constitution in 1788, North Carolina was an isolated and independent State. This is not the time, as we have heretofore said, to enter upon a discussion of either the correctness of President Davis's assumption in regard to secession, or of the magnanimity of its introduction at this juncture. We give all that the go-by while the war lasts and while it is the great duty of every one, from the President down, to give every thought and energy to its successful prosecution. For the present at least, and in reference to our own Confederacy, we may well assent to the poet's proposition:—

"For forms of government let fools contest;
That which is best administered is best."

WORK FOR THE RICHMOND ENQUIRER.—This Richmond organ has so far failed to avail itself of an opportunity to grind out a new tune on "a plot" to destroy the Confederacy, to bring on a collision between a State and the Confederate authorities, &c. &c. It rung the changes on these imaginations of its own when a proposition was before our Legislature to raise a State force, but somehow it has ignored the proceedings of the South Carolina Legislature, where, on the 4th inst., it was formally proposed to retain for a still longer period, the eight regiments of Reserves which have been actually in the State service for three months past, the regiments to elect their own field officers, &c. This horrible proposition was only defeated by a majority of 5 in the South Carolina Senate. And yet the Enquirer is silent!

And while this is going on in the South Carolina Legislature, one of its wiseacres, doubtless deceived by the Enquirer's imputations against North Carolina, is announcing in a speech in that body that he "is slow to believe that the State of North Carolina is under the control of a party adverse to the government." The member will be wise neither to be slow nor fast to believe it. It is false.

It is proper to remark that the other States to which we have referred formed their "State troops," "State line" or "Reserves" out of persons not subject to the Conscription.—*Wil. Journal.*

We suppose that this is intended to create the impression, at least by implication, that North Carolina is the only State which *has* sought to form Reserves from persons subject to conscription. If so, there is a singular ignorance prevailing in the War Department at Richmond, whose head lately advertised in Florida papers that persons "subject to the Conscription" must volunteer in companies to be raised and kept in Florida for home defence, *or* be conscribed into the Confederate service. It may seem queer to the Journal, but it is our opinion that about a matter of this sort the War Department is likely to have more accurate information than itself. We believe there is no doubt that Georgia is enrolling conscripts, and has already placed them in service. The Georgia papers ought to know, and they printed the law lately passed authorizing the State troops and have already mentioned its practical results. How many men between 18 and 45 there are in the State forces of Virginia, South Carolina and other States we cannot tell, but we should like to have the question settled. Probably some of our representatives at Richmond might obtain the information by resolutions of inquiry.

We make these remarks, now as heretofore, only in defence of our State from unjust imputations. In other respects we have had no share in all the turmoil about the Ten Regiments, mainly created by an impudent meddler in another and half-yankee State. We share in the councils of neither the Confederate nor the State authorities. Sometimes we do not think either altogether free from error in matters connected with the conduct of the war. But we have no means of knowing upon what information their action is based. Shall we denounce them? By no means. We yield cordial support and generous confidence to the Richmond authorities. We think it right to do the same by our Governor and Legislature, who are as truly patriotic and quite as much entitled to our respect as the President and Congress.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

The Raleigh papers, received very late to-day, bring us the proceedings on Monday evening and Tuesday.

In the Senate on Monday evening, bills and resolutions were passed: in relation to *habeas corpus;* authorizing a Special Court in Randolph; in regard to Statute of Limitations; increasing Governor's salary to $5000 and Treasurer's chief clerk to $1500; in favor of E. M. Wellborne; incorporating Yadkin Valley and Western Railroad; increasing salaries of Adj. Gen's clerks to $1000.

On Tuesday, bills and resolutions were passed: in favor of John Rosemond,—W. W. Happer, L. W. Kornegay, and of the Clerks and Doorkeepers ($100 to former, $50 to latter.) A bill to punish aiders and abettors of treason was rejected 16 to 12. Cases of that sort, it was said, should not have cognizance in the State Courts, as, belonging legitimately to the Confederate Courts, an accused person would be subject to two indictments for the same offence.

In the Commons, on Monday night, bills and resolutions were passed, amending an act relative to common schools; for relief of families of deceased soldiers, and providing for a roll of honor: an engrossed bill from the Senate, authorizing courts to be held elsewhere than the county seat (the C. H. having been destroyed by the enemy:) a bill from the Senate amending the Revised Code relative to the writ of habeas corpus. This last gave rise to considerable discussion, Messrs. Fowle and Grissom for, and Messrs. Person and Shepherd against the bill.

On Tuesday, bills and resolutions were passed: in favor of Doorkeepers and clerks; of John Spelman ($13 50 for printing;) concerning Bladen Sheriffs and securities; to amend charter of Asheville; in favor of Capt W. W. Clements' Cavalry Company; bill to amend an act of the present session to prevent the distillation of spiritous liquors. To prevent slaves from trading in spiritous liquors. A bill chartering the Greenville (S. C.) and French Broad railroad was rejected after much discussion.

On Tuesday afternoon, bills and resolutions were passed: protesting against seizure of A. & N. C. R. R. iron by C. States; to regulate sale of liquor in Bladen; incorporating Orphan's Educational Board; and some private bills.

The Legislature adjourns this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE FAYETTEVILLE OBSERVER.

RALEIGH, Feb'y 11.

Business has been hurried through this week, but among the many bills laid on the table there were but few which would not have been so disposed of weeks ago had the calendar in regular order been taken up, as there were a number of bills on Extortion, &c., which were also summarily disposed of in one report from the Committee on Extortion. There is not now upon the file of the House of Commons a single bill not acted upon.

To-day, in the House, a couple of bills on Extortion were tabled; some other little matters attended to: a bill supplementary to the act entitled Revenue—makes arrangements for holding courts to appoint assessors &c. The squabble concerning the Revenue Bill was decided by the adoption of a system of taxing slaves, that; "each slave shall be taxed according to his individual value as assessed by the same assessors who assess the value of the land." This is simple plain advalorem. Much is due to the industry of Mr. Shepherd for his untiring exertions in bringing this bill to proper shape and attending to the many duties of Chairman of the Committee of Finance. In fact I may with truth say that no member of the House has been more attentive to business and more earnestly endeavored to serve the interests of the whole State as well as those of his constituents than he.

The greater part of the session of the House was taken up in discussing a county bill from the west.

The Senate rejected the bill to create the North Carolina Iron Works Company, yeas 10, nays 17. Before the vote was taken on it an amendment was agreed to giving the privileges that the bill conveyed "also to the Sapona Iron Works Company."

Why will not the many moneyed men of Fayetteville take up the thing themselves? There is not a well managed Iron Works in the South which is not making at least from 200 to 300 per cent. profit.

No other business of importance was transacted in that body.

Both Houses hold sessions to-night, but they will be short as the House has no business to do.

MAGISTRATES.—The Winston Sentinel controverts some statements which it imagines that we made about the Magistrates of Forsyth county. We made no statement about that or any other county. A member of the Legislature made a statement as to his own county and upon that we took occasion to give expression to our disapprobation of allowing politics to influence judicial appointments. The Sentinel can settle the local question with its member. But it is very evident that the 52 magistrates appointed for Forsyth were *not* appointed "to cheat the Confederate Government out of soldiers," by assigning "men enough in one county for a respectable company of troops to a position outside of the Conscript Law." For before appointing Magistrates it was agreed to appoint none liable to conscription. We have no doubt its idea that 52 were appointed so as to make a majority of traitors on the bench is equally unfounded. But it will make a pleasant item for the Richmond Enquirer to serve up for the encouragement of the yankees.

THE INSANE ASYLUM.—Dr. Fisher reports to the Board that there were on Nov. 3, 1862, (the date of his report printed by the Legislature,) 195 patients under his care. Of these 112 are males, and 83 females. Two years ago there were 179 patients, of whom 89 have been discharged, viz: 38 recovered, 6 much improved, 22 not improved, and 23 died. The institution is now full, many having been reluctantly refused admission, and in the male departments operations are necessarily restricted to treatment of those already in the Asylum and such others as may seek admission according to priority of date for vacancies occuring.

There have been 506 patients since the organization of the Asylum; 480 from North Carolina, 13 from Virginia, 3 from S. C., 4 from Alabama, 1 each from Georgia, Mississippi, California, Tennessee, Texas and Florida. Among the patients now under treatment 4 are insane in consequence of "the war," and 1 a victim of the John Brown raid.

The expenditures for 1861 were $38,336 70, and in 1862 $45,459 32. The receipts in 1861, $40,629 86; in 1862 $46,586 80. $64,500 of the receipts are from the State; the remainder from pay patients.

COMMON SCHOOLS.—Mr. Wiley reports that returns were made him in 1862 from 65 counties in whole or in part. From these returns he makes the following summary of the more important statistics:—

Financial.—The receipts reported in sixty counties—(and these include balances from former years)—amounted to $220,312 99. The disbursements in these counties were $117,924 50; and the amount on hand $104,-386 46.

General Statistics.—The whole number of children reported in 46 counties was, males 57,157, females 54,890; males and females together 6,755—in all, 118,802. The whole number of districts reported in 58 counties was 2,621. The number of children who were reported as attending school in 57 counties, was 52,018, of whom 29,122 were males and 22,868 were females, and 58, sexes not distinguished. The number of licenses granted to teachers and reported to me was 1,233; of which 962 were to males and 271 to females; the number of schools reported was 1,556, and the average length of the schools was 2 and 4-5 months. Schools were held in a number of counties from which I have not received reports. I feel warranted in asserting that the whole number of children who attended the Common Schools of the State could not have been less than *sixty-five to seventy thousand.*

A SHOWER BATH.—After the unbounded rejoicings over the signal naval victory at Charleston,—the certain sinking of one of the yankee ships and probable sinking of two others,—it is very like a shower bath, a wet blanket, or any other shock of the nerves, to find that the sinking was only in the sanguine imaginations of our friends, and that all the yankee ships are safe, though somewhat damaged, in harbor at Port Royal.

Truly is it hard to get the truth in these times.

LATEST WAR NEWS.

Port Hudson.—PORT HUDSON, Feb. 10.—Information has just been received from the pickets that a portion of Sibley's command encountered the enemy at Indian Village to-day routing him after a severe fight. The enemy admit a loss of one thousand in killed, wounded and missing.

Positive information from Baton Rouge has been received that an Irish Brigade and negro Regiment have been sent below. Total force of the enemy there is 19,000. Deserters are continually arriving here.

Skirmish in Virginia.—RICHMOND, Feb. 11.—The Lynchburg Republican of yesterday says that a rather severe fight took place at the Rappahannock bridge, in Culpeper county, on Friday last, between a portion of Hampton's cavalry and a body of abolitionists, who had been sent to destroy the bridge. The vandals partially succeeded in their design, but before it was fully executed our men came upon them, and, after a hot fight, drove them off, with the loss of four killed, some eighteen or twenty wounded, and thirteen prisoners. Our loss was one killed, seven wounded and two missing. The enemy was pursued some miles from the river, but so rapid was their flight, that but little damage was done them on the retreat: nearly their whole loss being sustained in the fight at the bridge.—*Examiner.*

From Fredericksburg.—FREDERICKSBURG, Feb'y 10.—The sounds from the enemy's lines have, in a measure, subsided, and the arc of fire which hitherto by night has denoted the locality of their camps has almost disappeared. The Yankee army has certainly been in motion during the past few days, but evidently not with the intention of an attack in front, though their batteries on the opposite bank have exhibited an unusual number of guns, and the hills have bristled with more bayonets of regiments on drill than heretofore have been visible. Yesterday morning nearly a brigade formed on the lawn in front of the Chatham House, and filed down the hillside almost within a stone's throw of our men, who, attracted by the sight, gathered in groups on the banks of the river, and gazed defiantly at the mercenary host.

Your correspondent is of the opinion that these demonstrations are made for the purpose of concealing movements in some other direction. Not that it is believed the enemy have any design to change their base of operations, for the extensive wharves at Acquia Creek, warehouses along the line of railway, and extraordinary hospital accommodations, all indicate their present point of occupation as permanent, and the centre from which will radiate their assaulting parties.

Cor. Rich'd Examiner.

CHARLESTON, Feb. 10.—The impression prevails here that the enemy will attack Savannah before Charleston, but the military authorities differ in their opinions.

Exciting events may soon be looked for from Savannah, according to private information.

The new ironsides dissappeared yesterday from the blockading squadron. It is believed she has gone to join the grand armada.

Bragg and his Generals.—We learn from an unquestionable source, that on the arrival of Gen. Bragg at Tullahoma, he addressed a circular letter to his Generals, in which he desired to know if there was any foundation for the rumor prevailing, that there was dissatisfaction and a want of confidence in him, existing in the army? All the Generals with the exception of Withers and Cheatham replied in the affirmative, stating that such was the case, and that it would be to the interest of the service if Gen. Bragg would ask to be relieved.

It is further stated that none but Generals Polk, Withers and Cheatham concurred in the proposition to retreat from Murfreesboro', all the other Generals not only being opposed to it, but the majority of them were not even consulted on this point. General Withers in his statement in this regard was therefore entirely mistaken.—*Chas. Courier.*

Deserters.—Two deserters are under sentence for Military execution in General Walker's district, in this department. We hope there will be no occasion for repeating such examples.—*Charleston Courier.*

DEATHS OF SOLDIERS.—Jan'y 1st, in the hospital at Scottville, Va., from the effects of a wound received in the Fredericksburg battle on the 13th of Dec. James A. Houston, Co. A., 57th Reg't, in the 32d year of his age, a citizen of Rowan county.

Near Gordonsville, Va., 18th November Mr. Allen E. McDonald, in the 26th year of his age, of Capt Kelly's Co., 35th Reg't, and was in the battle at Newbern, below Richmond, Malvern Hill, Reduction of Harper's Ferry and Sharpsburg.

At Danville Va., 14th ult., Mr. Dan'l C. McDonald, in the 20th year of his age, a member of Capt. Horne's company, 3d Reg't and was in the battle of Sharpsburg.

Killed in the battle of Fredericksburg, Va., William R. McKay, of Co. D, 61st Ga. Vol's, a native of Richmond county, N. C.

In Richmond, 1st instant, Capt. W. Washington Chenault, of the 49th Reg't N. C. Vols., aged 25 years.

At the hospital in Raleigh about the 10th of September, 1862, of Measles, Joseph W. Emerson, of Chatham county, in the 25th year of his age, a private in Capt. White's company, 56th Regiment.

At the Chimborazo Hospital, Richmond, Jan. 16th, Jesse M. Watkins, private of company B. 1st regiment.

In the battle of Fredericksburg, December 13th, Mr. Jesse Lippard, private in company C, 48th regiment.

In Chimboraza hospital, 14th December, Wm. A. Collins, in the 22d year of his age, a volunteer in company C, 48th regiment.

At Garysburg, Dec. 9th, of Pneumonia, Joshua Horn, of Co. C, 63d Reg't, aged 26.

At Chimborazo Hospital, Richmond, Jan'y 16th, Jesse M. Watkins, of Co. B, 1st Reg't.

In Wilmington, 27th ult., David F. Croom, aged 21, of Capt. Taylor's Co., stationed near Wilmington.

In Transylvania county, Jan'y 20th, A. R. Lyon, aged 20, of Co. E, 25th Reg't.

On the battle field near Fredericksburg, 13th Dec'r, Serg't J. W. Luther, a native of Randolph county, N. C., aged 26 years and 5 months, of Co. L, 22d Reg't.

Co. E, 61st Reg't, has adopted resolutions of respect for the following members who have died, viz:

Serg't Major Hill, who fell on the battle field at Kinston, December 14th, J. J. Wadsworth, who died in the Hospital at Greenville, Moses Spivey, at the Wilson Hospital, R. L. Suggs, at the Raleigh Hospital, E. P. Rutledge, and R. M. Moore, in the Hospital at Goldsboro.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

At the Hospital in Staunton, Va., on the 7th December last, Alexander C. McMillan, of Robeson county, aged about 27, a member of Co. C, 7th Reg't. He had been ill for near three months, at Winchester and Staunton, of fever, erisypelas and chronic diarahœa. The physician who attended him in his last moments writes to his afflicted family, that "he was conscious that life was fast ebbing out, but as a follower of the meek and lowly Saviour he bore his afflictions with much fortitude. He spoke of death as gain." He leaves a wife and two small children to mourn their irreparable loss.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

In the General Hospital at Wilmington, on the 28th September 1862, Nathan T. Edge, in the 28th year of his age. He was a member of the Bladen Artillery, and a resident of Bladen county, N. C. The deceased leaves a mother and two sisters and a large circle of friends and relatives to mourn his untimely death. He was a consistent member of the Methodist Church. Precious in the sight of the Lord are the death of his Saints.

A SOLDIER.

GUARANTEE OF CONFEDERATE BONDS.—The South Calina Legislature at its session in December agreed to guarantee its proportion of $200,000,000 of the Confederate debt. At its present adjourned session it repealed that law and passed another to guarantee its proportion of $500,000,000, that proportion amounting to $34,-482,758 62, according to the representation of that State in the House of Representatives of the Confederate Congress, omitting the States of Missouri and Kentucky in the calculation.

CONGRESS.—The only thing of interest on Monday was the passage by the House of a bill abolishing flogging in the army.

On Tuesday, the bill changing the exemption law was defeated.

THE RALEIGH MAIL.—The contractors write to us in explanation of the late arrivals of the stage from Raleigh that "the roads are so bad, it is almost impossible to get over or through them at all. We are constantly having to prize out wheels sunk below the centre."

FOR THE OBSERVER.

CAMP COOKE, HOLLY SHELTER SWAMP,
NEW HANOVER, N. C., Feb'y 5, 1863.

Messrs. Hale:—Permit me through the columns of the Observer, to return for the members of my company, their grateful acknowledgments for the following contributions: 52 quilts from Ladies' Soldiers' Aid Society, Asheboro'; 5 carpet blankets, Mrs Dr J M Worth; 2 fine woolen counterpanes, Mrs Frank Hoover; 2 comforts, Mrs Nancy Hoover; 2 prs woolen socks, Mrs Dr Colton; 2 prs woolen socks, Mrs Hugh McCain, Sr; 1 pr woolen socks, Miss Emma A Keerans; $5 cash; 7 prs shoes, Dr J M Worth.

Many of the Company, for the want of sufficient clothing, have passed scarcely a night since the battle of Sharpsburg, without being compelled to get up frequently to warm themselves by the fire. All are now comfortably supplied. I hope the consciousness of having relieved from this inconvenience those who have made and are still making untold sacrifices for the cause, and who, after the duties of the day, that they may be prepared for the next, require uninterrupted rest during the night, will afford a gratification to our kind and liberal friends that will repay the trouble they have taken in contributing to our comfort.

Respectfully, A. C. McALISTER,
Capt. Co. F, 46th N. C. Reg't.

From the Coast.—A soldier at Fort Caswell writes on the 6th inst:—

"Old Fort Caswell is still living under the Confederate flag, and our boys are in fine spirits wishing to meet the enemy at all times. In fact we are very well prepared to meet them as they have given us ample time to fix for them. Four blockaders are lying off in sight of the Fort."

MARRIED.

At Fort Fisher, on the 1st ult., by the Rev. B. F. Jessup, Mr. ALEXANDER THOUS, a native of France, to Miss NARCISSA CRAIG, of New Hanover county, N. C.

January 5th, 1863, in Louisa county, Va., at Cherry Grove, (the residence of the lady's father,) by the Rev Mr. Turner, Mr. W. C. ELAM, of the Ashland Artillery, to Miss D. A., eldest daughter of Chas. Travis Poindexter, Esq.

In Montgomery county, 27th ult., by N. McInis, Esq. Mr. J. C. CHANEY to Miss YARY HOGAN, daughter of James and Charity Hogan, all of Montgomery Co.

In Wilmington, 10th inst., by Rev. Mr. McQueen, Col. WM. J. MARTIN, of Hillsboro', to LETITIA, daughter of Mr. Miles Costin of Wilmington.

DIED.

At Laurinburgh, on the 6th inst., in the 70th year of her age, Mrs. NANCY MIDDLETON, consort of James Middleton, Esq. The deceased had been a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church for 48 years. This estimable lady was distinguished for kindness, hospitality, and for that charity which "suffereth long and is kind." PASTOR.

In Chatham county, suddenly, supposed to be of disease of the heart, on the 26th ult., JAHAZA ATWATER, in the 53d year of his age.

In Columbus county, Feb'y 7th, Mrs. MARY MEARS, at the advanced age of 87 years.

TRIBUTE OF RESPECT.

At a meeting of Co. I, 31st N. C. Reg't, Capt. J. A. D. McKay was called to the Chair, and Lt. Wm. Pearson requested to act as Secretary.

On motion, Allen B. Parker, Wm. A. Dewar and R. D. Lanier were appointed a Committee, who reported the following preamble and resolutions which were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom, to remove from our Company, by death, our friends and comrades-in-arms, Lt. Wm. O. Tutor and private David W. Johnson, who departed this life on 28th and 29th ult., therefore be it

Resolved, That in this dispensation of Providence, the Confederate States service has lost two brave, devoted and faithful soldiers, and Co. I, of the 31st N. C. Reg't, an efficient officer and one of its best members, who were among the first to tender their services to resist the power and tyranny of Abraham Lincoln.

Resolved, That while we mourn the loss of our friends, who, by their faithfulness and zeal, had won the confidence and esteem of their fellow soldiers, we acknowledge the hand of an All-Wise Being, and bow in submission to his decree.

Resolved, That we extend our sympathy to the bereaved parents and relatives of our late comrades, in this their hour of grief.

Resolved, That a copy of these Resolutions be sent to the parents of each, and to the Fayetteville Observer, and N. C. Presbyterian for publication, and that the Raleigh papers be requested to copy.

ALLEN B. PARKER,
WM. A. DEWAR,
R. D. LANIER, } Com.
J. A. D. McKAY, Ch'mn.

WM. PEARSON, Sec'y.
CAMP WHITING, N. C., Feb. 6.

Executor's Sale of Real and Personal Estate.

THE Undersigned, Executors of the last Will and Testament of Rhodes N. Herndon, late of the County of Granville, and State of North Carolina, deceased, will, on the 17th day of MARCH next, at the Court House door in the town of Oxford, sell to the highest bidder, for cash, the REAL ESTATE, NEGROES and PERISHABLE PROPERTY belonging to the Estate of the said deceased in said County of Granville. Said real estate consists of a Grist Mill and premises, several tracts of Land lying within a convenient distance of said town, and the following property in said town, to-wit: the Hotel, known as the Oxford Hotel; one or two Store houses, several vacant lots eligibly situated, and three or four other lots improved, having thereon neat and comfortable Dwelling houses, out houses, &c. The mill is about three fourths of a mile from said town and is of great value. It grinds both wheat and corn, and manufactures a very superior article of flour, and the custom to it is full and steady. The Hotel is situated in the centre of the town just opposite the Court House, and is capable of accommodating a large number of guests. It has been long established and liberally patronized, and is widely and favorably known. Amongst the improved lots, attention is especially invited to the one on which the deceased resided. It contains about fifteen or twenty acres, and has on it one of the most elegant and commodious mansions in the State, together with all necessary outhouses, which are conveniently arranged, and are, as are also the other improvements about the grounds, in a style corresponding with that of the mansion house. There is also on the place a fine orchard, and in every respect the situation is an exceedingly desirable one. Of the tracts of land, the one known as the HESTER plantation, is deemed to be particularly valuable. It is six miles from the town of Oxford, and contains about nine hundred acres, of which nearly one-half, (mostly fresh land) is in cultivation, and the residue is in original forest. The soil is good and well adapted to the production of corn, wheat and tobacco. There is on the plantation a good dwelling house, with all such barns, stables, negro houses, and other outbuildings as are necessary and suitable, and also a large apple and peach orchard.

The negroes are about sixty in number, and amongst them are some valuable house-servants, seamstresses, field hands, mechanics, and also an experienced miller.

The perishable property consists of stock of different kinds, household and kitchen furniture, wagons and gear, farming utensils, corn, flour, bacon, and a great variety of things too tedious to mention.

Should the weather be too bad on the day above designated, the sale will take place on the next fair day thereafter, and, when commenced, will be continued from day to day till completed.

Further particulars will be made known on the day of sale, and can be obtained in the meantime, by application to the undersigned, or to any one of them.

JOHN R. HERNDON,
D. C. HERNDON, } Executors.
H. C. HERNDON,

Oxford, N. C., Feb. 10, 1863. [R. S.] 2-4t

W. H. ALLEN,
Commission Merchant,
WILMINGTON, N. C.

PROMPT personal attention given to consignments of Naval Stores, Cotton, or other Country Produce for sale or shipment.

April 22. 11-1m*tf

ACTS AND RESOLUTIONS,

Passed at the adjourned Session of the General Assembly of North Carolina, commencing 19th of January and ending 12th of February, 1863.

ACTS.

1. For the relief of Landlords.
2. To amend an act passed at present session entitled "an act to amend the ordinance of the Convention, entitled "an ordinance to make some provision for the families of soldiers dying in service," ratified 22d February, 1862, "and for other purposes."
3. To admit proof of hand-writing of attesting witnesses in certain cases.
4. Changing time of holding Stokes Co. Courts.
5. " " " Rutherford Probate "
6. " " " Ashe County "
7. Authorizing Gov'r to appoint an Ad'j Gen'l.
8. Incorporating Unacoy and Hiwassee Turnpike.
9. Incorporating Western N. C. Mining Co.
10. For relief of W. E. Mann, late sheriff of Pasquotank.
11. Incorporating silver and lead mining Co.
12. Amending charter of Raleigh.
13. Establishing Beatavilla Seminary, Davidson.
14. In favor of J. H. Allen.
15. " " " late sheriff T. J. Carr.
16. " " " " " M. L. F. Redd.
17. Authorizing a Messenger for Ex. Department.
19. Authorizing Comptroller to employ assistance to countersign Treasury notes.
20. To legalize the proceedings of a county court in Henderson county.
21. To amend 46th ch. Rev. Code, section 18th.
22. To amend charter of Wilmington.
23. For relief of citizens of Alleghany county.
24. For the benefit of persons who have entered vacant lands.
25. Authorizing one third of the whole number of Justices of the Peace in any county to tansact county business.
26. To authorize incorporated towns to lay an *ad valorem* tax on slaves.
27. To authorize C. A. Boon, Guilford, and Joseph Lusk, Gaston, to collect arrearages of taxes.
28. In favor of Isaac Arledge.
29. To alter rules of law in relation to the probate of wills.
30. To legalise proceedings of a county court in Catawba.
31. To incorporate town of Dallas, in Gaston.
32. To amend charter of Chatham Railroad.
33. Concerning State Educational Association of N. C.
34. Supplemental to an act ratified 20th Dec. 1862, entitled "an act to provide ways and means for supplying the Treasury," and also, to repeal a portion of an ordinance of the State Convention, ratified 26th Feb. 1862.
35. To appoint Commissioners to sell old jail in Wilkesboro'.
36. To authorize Isaac A. Real, McDowell, to collect arrears of taxes.
37. To amend the militia law.
38. To enable incorporated towns to lay additional taxes.
39. In favor of C. Austin, Sheriff of Union.
40. To incorporate Anderson Monument Association.
41. To incorporate Dispatch Steamboat Company.
42 To authorize Auditor of Public Accounts to administer oaths.
43 To amend charter of N. C. Powder Man. co.
44 To provide for completion of the claim of N. C. against Confederate Gov't &c.
45 To require the Quartermaster of this State to pay commutation money to the soldiers of N C for boots and shoes.
46 To incorporate Vestal's Ford Tollbridge co.
47 To incorporate Chesnut Hill in Rowan.
48 To amend 1st sec. 4th Ch. Rev'd Code.
49 For relief of wives and families of soldiers.
50 To charter Shelby and Broad River railroad.
51 Authorizing Governor to issue Commissions to hold Courts of Oyer and Terminer.
52 In relation to County Court of Brunswick.
53. To authorize G. W. Crumpler, Sampson, to collect arrears of taxes.
54 To incorporate N. C. Christian Advocate Pub'g co.
55 To make more effectual an act regulating the payment of Bounty.
56 Concerning Insane persons.
57 To amend charter of Pittsborough.
58. An act entitled "REVENUE."

[Levies an *ad valorem* tax of two-fifths of one per cent upon the assessed cash value of the following, to-wit:

1st. Real Estate.

2d. All slaves in the State (except such as the County Courts may exempt or have exempted from taxation on account of bodily or mental infirmity) to be ascertained by the same persons who assess the value of lands.

3d. Money due from solvent debtors, or on deposit with individuals or corporations; Confederate and State Treasury notes to be considered "money." The person listing money on hand or at interest being allowed to deduct debts owing by him as principal, and also as surety where the principal is insolvent.

4th. On money invested in Manufacturing and Steamboat Companies, according to the shares as fixed by the charter, if the shares be in a corporation—if there be no incorporation, then on the amount invested. A like tax is laid on money invested in County or State Bonds issued since February 23d, 1861; also on money invested in every species of trade and traffic not otherwise taxed in the bill.

5th. Household and kitchen furniture above the value of $200, except such furniture as is specifically taxed.

6th. Horses, mules, cattle, hogs and other live stock raised or kept for sale, and not for owner's use, subject to exemptions hereinafter set forth.

7th. All cotton and tobacco not owned by the producer, or purchased by the owner for his own use or that of his family and dependants: cotton purchased for the purpose of manufacturing to be exempt from taxation, provided that no more cotton thus held for manufacture shall be exempted, than is needed for the consumption of one year. The usual exemptions of real estate are provided for: Mechanical and farming tools, books, wearing apparel, arms for muster, boats, canoes, or nets, seines of the value of $200, or less, are also exempt. Property taxed at a higher rate than two fifths of one per cent. is not liable to said tax but is to be listed separately.

An annual tax of eight per cent is laid on every dollar of net dividend or profit not previously listed, declared, received or due, on or before the 1st of April in each year, on money or capital invested in shares in the Bank of Washington, the Merchants Bank of Newbern, Bank of Wadesboro', Bank of Fayetteville, Commercial Bank of Wilmington, Farmers Bank of N. C., Bank of Charlotte and Bank of Yanceyville, to be exempted however from County tax.

Stock or interest held by individuals in all corporations, companies, or business, to be listed as the individual property of holders in the counties of which they are residents. At the first County Court of each county held on or before the 1st Monday of March, and at the same term every four years thereafter, the court shall appoint district boards of valuation, consisting of one Justice of the Peace and two freeholders for each school or Captain's District, to ascertain the cash value of land, other real estate, and slaves required to be listed. Land is to be listed as heretofore. In listing slaves, their names, ages and number must be specified. Town lots to be listed and valued separately.

The District Boards to complete their lists by the 1st Monday of April after their appointment, and on the 1st Thursday thereafter, the justices of these boards are to meet at the Court House and organize as a County Board of valuation, to receive, compare, and examine the lists returned, to hear appeals from district assessments, to order reassessments if necessary, and to return the corrected lists to the County Court Clerk.

Takers of the tax lists shall not take the lists of lands and slaves, but they shall be ascertained by the County Court Clerk, and entered by him on the tax lists to be furnished to the sheriff or collector, from the lists of the assessors.

SCHEDULE A.

(1.) A tax of $1 20 is laid on every taxable poll; County Courts may exempt old and infirm persons. Soldiers in the actual service of the State or Confederate governments are exempt.

(2.) Toll gates on turnpike roads, [illegible] and ferries are taxed 2½ per cent. on amount of annual receipts. Keepers of houses of public entertainment in town or country, whose annual receipts amount to $800, are taxed one per cent on their receipts.

(3.) Every gate, permitted by the County Court to be erected across a highway is taxed $15.

(4.) On note-shavers, in addition to the tax imposed on the interest they may receive on notes or bonds, a tax of ten per cent. on their profits, which they are required to list without deducting their losses.

(5.) Persons engaged in buying and selling slaves are taxed one-half of one per cent. on the total amount of their purchases, (whether made in the State or out of it,) during the twelve months preceding the 1st day of April.

(6.) The same tax is laid on residents of this State, not regularly trading in slaves, who purchase slaves in or out of the State to sell again.

(7.) Pleasure carriages, buggies, etc., of the value of $50 are taxed one per cent. on value. Stud horses and jackasses let to mares for a price, belonging to residents of the State, are taxed six dollars unless the highest price demanded for the season for one mare, exceeds that sum, in which case they are taxed the amount demanded. These are to be listed and the tax paid in the county where the owner resides.

(8.) Gold and silver plate, plated ware, and jewelry worn by males of greater value than $25, are taxed one per cent on value.

(9.) Watches, not kept for sale, one per cent. on value; harps in use, $2 50 each; pianos in use, $1 50 each; gold headed canes in use, $1; silver headed canes 50 cents.

(10.) Resident surgeons, dentists, physicians, lawyers, portrait or miniature painters, daguerrean artists, etc., commmission merchants, factors, produce brokers and auctioneers, State and county officers, presidents, cashiers, superintendents or treasurers of banks, railroads or other corporations, whose annual receipts amount to $1,000 or upwards, are taxed one per cent on total receipts or income. Judges of the Supreme and Superior Courts the Governor and military officers in actual service, are exempted.

(11.) Every head of a family to list all his dogs above two on any one plantation, including those owned by his slaves, or any other person resident on his lands. Persons not heads of families are required to list all dogs but one, owned by him or his slaves, and a tax of $1 is levied on each dog listed. Dogs under eight months old are untaxed. The county courts are empowered to levy these taxes, and the taxes collected levied under this section shall be for county purposes.

(12.) "Dead heads" travelling on Railroads, in which the State is a stockholder, or with which it has exchanged bonds, are required to list the number of miles so travelled by them, or any member of their families, during the year preceding the 1st of April, and are taxed 2½ cents per mile for each mile so travelled. Officials, employees and ministers of the Gospel, travelling in discharge of their repective functions, exempted.

(13.) Persons who have distilled brandy for sale, or had it distilled for sale, the year preceding the 1st day of April, are to list the number of gallons distilled and pay a tax of ten cents per gallon.

(14.) Dealers in wines, cordials and spiritous liquors, bought of non residents, are taxed twenty per cent on the amount of their profits; and persons buying to sell again, liquors distilled in the State, are taxed ten per cent on their profits.

On every dollar of net profit or dividend, declared, received or due, during the year preceding the 1st of April in each year, (and not previously listed) upon money or capital invested in manufacturing cotton or woolen goods, leather or articles made of leather, iron and tobacco; and also on every dollar of net profit or dividend on money invested in steamboat companies (whether incorporated or not) and in Railroads, a tax of two cents.

(15.) Collateral descents are taxed as follows, viz: If the collateral relation be a brother or sister, one per cent; if the relation be a brother or sister of the father or mother of the deceased, or child of such brother or sister, two per cent; if such collateral relation be a more remote relation, or the devisee or legatee be a stranger, three per cent.

Slaves hired out of the State are to be listed by the owner as well as those employed in the State. This provision does not apply to persons who have permanently located their slaves beyond the limits of the State, and hire them from year to year in other States.

SCHEDULE B.

Subjects taxed without being listed.

(1.) On circuses, menageries, &c., $75 for each county in which they exhibit. Separate exhibitions (known as side-shows,) $15 for each county.

(2.) Companies of stage or theatrical players, performers of feats of strength or agility and exhibitors of natural or artificial objects, (except amateurs) $20 for each county in which they exhibit for reward.

(3.) Companies of itinerant singers, musicians, dancers, *et id omne genus*, exhibiting for the public amusement, $10 for each county.

(4.) Insurance companies incorporated out of the State 5 per cent. of their gross earnings.

(5.) Agencies of Banks incorporated out of the State $500.

(6.) Money, exchange, bond or note brokers, private bankers, or agents of foreign brokers or bankers, ten per cent. of their profits.

(7.) Express companies $600.

(8.) Public billiard tables $125 each; bagatelle and roulette tables $50 each; private billiard tables $25 each.

[9.] Public bowling alleys $50 each; private bowling alleys $10.

[10.] Livery stables, or places where horses and vehicles are kept for hire $50.

[11.] Licensed retailers of spiritous liquors, wines or cordials, or of malt liquors, $50. They are also required to list the amount of liquors, wines, etc., as per schedule A. and to pay the taxes there imposed.

[12.] Non residents, who in person or by agent, shall purchase any slave or slaves in this State shall immediately become liable to pay a tax of one half of one per cent. on the amount of his purchase, and on failure to pay said tax shall forfeit and pay the sum of $100. Agents equally liable with their principals to the tax and forfeiture.

[13.] Non-residents selling slaves in the State, one-half of one per cent. on the amount of each sale effected. This tax is to be collected of the purchaser on failure of the seller to pay it.

(15.) Sellers of playing cards 50 cents per pack on all cards sold by them.

(16.) Sellers of foreign made vehicles one per cent. on their sales.

(17.) Auctioneers one per cent. on the gross amount of their sales made for residents; on sales made for itinerant traders or non-residents, five per cent. on the gross amount.

(18.) Merchants, merchant-tailors, jewellers, grocers, druggists, produce dealers, commission merchants, factors, produce brokers and all other traders not taxed on their purchases in some other paragraph of this schedule, one-half of one per cent. on the total amount of their purchases, whether made in or out of the State, for cash or on credit. Every person or corporation, manufacturing cotton or woolen cloth, (after the 1st day Jan'y 1863,) or a mixture of both, leather, shoes, boots, flour, salt, implements of husbandry, wagons, wagon harness, and all articles manufactured out of leather, clothing and iron; and every other person who as principal or agent for another, carries on the business of manufacturing any of the foregoing articles, are taxed all net profits above seventy-five per cent. upon the cost of production.

(19.) Dealers in ready-made clothing, one and one-half per cent. on total amount of purchases.

(20.) Sellers of patent medicines, ten per cent. on amount of sales.

(21.) Horse and mule drovers, one per cent. on amount of each sale, due as soon as the sale is effected.

(22.) Studs and jacks (belonging to non-residents) let to mares for a price, ten dollars, unless the highest price demanded per season for one mare shall exceed that sum, in which case the amount thus demanded shall be paid for the license.

(23.) Peddlers $40.

(24.) Lightning-rod men and venders of spiritous liquors, in quantities from one quart to one barrel, other than the production of their own farms, are taxed as peddlers; but unlike them are not required to have a license.

(25.) Companies of gypsies are taxed $100 in each county, but are no less liable to indictment or any other penalty imposed by law. The double tax imposed for failure to list does not apply to soldiers in service. On special acts of incorporation and amendments to charters of incorporated companies a tax of $25 is levied. On every marriage license $1; on every mortgage deed, marriage contract and deed in trust, made to secure debts or liabilities, $1; and every other deed conveying title to real estate where the consideration is $300 or upwards, 50 cts. Non-resident brokers are required to pay to the cashier of the bank whence he draws any exchange or specie, one per cent. on all such sums drawn, to be accounted for to the State Treasury, by the said Cashier, on oath. The President or Cashier of the banks herein named, on or before the 1st day of October in each year, shall pay into the public treasury the following tax upon each share of stock owned by corporations or individuals, to-wit: the Bank of Washington, 25 cents; the Merchants Bank of Newbern, 25 cts; the Bank of Wadesboro', 12½ cents; the Bank of Fayetteville, 12½ cents; the Commercial Bank of Wilmington, 25 cents; the Farmers Bank of N. C., 25 cents; the Bank of North Carolina, 90 cents; the Bank of Lexington, 45 cents; Miner's and Planter's Bank, 45 cents; the [illegible] cents; Bank of Cape Fear, 90 cents; Bank of Wilmington, 90 cents; Bank of Charlotte, 12½ cents; Bank of Yanceyville, 25 cents; Bank of Thomasville, 45 cents; Bank of Roxboro', 45 cents; and any other which may be chartered by this or any future General Assembly, 90 cents on the share of $100. and in that proportion for shares of a less value, and in case the said officers of any bank shall neglect or fail to pay the tax as herein required, said bank shall pay double the amount of said tax, and the same shall be sued for and recovered by the Attorney General in the name of the State in the Superior Court of the County of Wake.

59. Supplemental to the Revenue Act.

[Provides that in all counties where regular terms of the county court shall come after the listing of taxes in 1863, between the sending in of the lists to the clerk and the first Monday of June, inclusive, the taxes for county purposes may be levied, and when the courts shall come after that day, a special court shall be called by the clerk or chairman, to be held prior to the first day of June 1863, to make said levy, the proceedings of the same to be recorded by the clerk on his minutes. Where in the revenue bill the term court house is used it shall apply to all such places as are used by authority of law for the holding of court or the transaction of county business. Further provides that this act be printed with the revenue bill.]

60. To amend 18th sec. 28th chap. Rev. Code in relation to fees of committees of finance.
61. To incorporate Franklin Mining & Man Co.
62. To incorporate Tuckasege Mining Co.
63. In regard to service of process on Southern Express Co.
64. To authorize sale of Sharon Church Parsonage.
65. To incorporate Macon Mining Co.
66. For protection against small pox. Authorizes gratuitous vaccination, by a physician to be appointed by Surgeon General in each county, to be paid $5 per day.
67. To incorporate Nantahala Mining Co.
68. To amend Militia Law; exempts men over 45.

RESOLUTIONS.

In relation to exchange of salt.
" " purchase of a cotton card machine.
Authorizing purchase of a C S Flag, for the Capitol.
Vindicating loyalty of North Carolina.
In reference to Soldiers' bounty.
To correct error in Burke Tax lists.
To employ additional engrossing clerks.
In relation to impressments in Johnston.
Authorizing payment of certain claims allowed by Board of Claims.
In relation to prisoners at Salisbury.
Concerning Mileage.
To furnish Transylvania Clerks with Revised Code.
To enclose Soldiers' burial ground at Raleigh.
In favor of, M L Brittain, John Fisher, O D Johnston, W H Bryson, C Byrd, D King, W W Long, G B Threadgill, Martin Walker, J A Long, Geo Credle, D Tucker, W L Shannon, J M Neal, A C Latham, sureties of W D Humphrey, R Galloway, L Williamson, R King, E Barnes, M C Gulley, J W Freeman, Mrs J M Dick, John Martin, W & W Railroad, J B Davis, William Green's sureties, R V Blackstock, J W Cromartie, J O Wallace, W W Happer, L L Clements, Jos Marshall, W W Green, W J Murray, John Rosemond, Wm Thompson, A B Downs, W W Green, J Spelman, Doorkeepers, Clerks, Engrossing Clerks, E M Welborn, B T Dunlop, J G Carroway.

LITTLE'S MILLS, Feb'y 7, 1863.

Messrs. E. J. Hale & Sons:—In the Observer of the 26th Jan'y I noticed a communication signed by C. W. Wooley and E. L. Barringer, Esqrs., in which, as representatives of the county of Montgomery in our State Legislature and therefore properly the guardians of their counties' honor, they seem to have felt called on to notice and brand as false and slanderous an article which recently appeared in the Wadesboro' Argus, stating as rumor that there was a feeling manifesting itself in the county of Montgomery in favor of reconstruction and that they had solicited certain [unnamed] prominent gentlemen to address them at Troy on Tuesday of their Jan'y Court. As this unfortunate and somewhat indiscreet article seems to have assumed an undue importance—to have called forth the rebuke above alluded to as well as to have produced annoyance and even bad feeling on the minds of the gentlemen whom public opinion has singled out as those said to have been so approached,—therefore, as it may be said that I have had some agency, though unintentional, in the appearance of the said offensive article, I deem it fit and proper that I should state to the public something of its origin, that is so far as I know or am concerned; this is deemed alike due to myself and to the parties complainant. This statement I had felt inclined to give some week or so ago, but was informed by some of the friends of the gentlemen implicated that they would in a scathing article in the Standard, shortly to appear, administer such a rebuke to their slanderers that they would ever after have cause to rue their temerity. I have calmly awaited this terrible promised missive; a friend has just handed me a number of the Standard containing a communication from Gen. Dockery on the subject, but in it I find nothing personal to complain of, nothing individually to take exceptions at. I therefore return to my original purpose of stating as to the origin of the report. First I would say that according to the Gen's communication, the story has been wonderfully magnified after getting to Raleigh; here it did not claim for the parties applying even the promise of an address from the Gen. or from any one else. That the story was not gotten up by the minions of power, as per Standard, or by the enemies of Gen. Dockery and Col. O. H. Dockery for political effect, would seem to be manifest from the fact that so far as it can be traced it had its origin in Montgomery. Among their political and personal friends, in this county, and especially in the neighborhood from which the report started, they have long enjoyed and for aught I know still enjoy, the very highest political and personal popularity. The fact I suspect is, as has been subsequently suggested by the Argus, that the conscription more than any thing else gave currency to the report and was perhaps father to the thought. From certain outgivings of this nature, I was at first inclined to give some credence to the story. In the Argus office, shortly after hearing it—while in conversation with Mr. Fenton, a friend, a Militia officer of the county, stepped in with a notice for publication calling the conscripts of the county to a board of examination. This incidentally led me to speak of the rumor that I had just heard from Montgomery—supposing from the source and manner it came that it was public at least;—it did not occur to me that Mr. Fenton would note it for publication; if it had, I should have entered a protest. None could have regretted more than I its appearance, as I have no disposition to misrepresent or injure any of the parties. I stated the report only as handed to me, omitting then and at all other times any mention of names. Against the gentlemen who feel injured by the report I entertained no unkindly personal feelings; the zeal which I entertain for the success of our cause makes me scan closely any symptom of disaffection, from whatever source it may arise. Can it be supposed that I would willingly propagate or circulate a slander against the county of Montgomery? If I had nothing else to shield me, it might reasonably be supposed that the almost daily benefits that I have for some time been conferring on her destitute citizens' families of her soldiers in the service, by selling them grain at a price almost nominal for the times, ought to vindicate me from any such purpose. I believe, and have always believed, that she in the main is as sound and patriotic as any other county in our section; yet it cannot be denied that from various causes which I will not here enumerate, there are in all sections and counties an ignorant and misguided few who, not from any inherent love of the old Union, but from a tiring of the war—to avoid its pressure and inconveniences—would be willing to almost any arrangement to see it stop. Should we not watch this spirit and endeavor to inculcate among this class, correct views as to the war, show to them that our interests are common, make them feel that they are so by acts of kindness, &c., &c?

S.

HARRISVILLE, N. C., Feb'y 2, 1863.

Messrs. E. J. Hale & Sons:—I was astonished to see in your paper that there had been or was to be a Union meeting in this county, at Troy or some other place. I think there is something wrong. I am Sheriff of this county, and I never heard tell of any such meeting, and I think that the people are as loyal in this county as any in the State of North Carolina.

Yours, truly, A. H. SANDERS.

PLOWS! PLOWS!!

NO. 10 Plow Casting for sale at the Eagle Foundry, by D. ANDERSON.

Jan. 19. 95-itf

[illegible] SOLDIERS.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

SOUTH QUAY, Southampton Co., Va., Feb. 6.

Messrs. Editors: Permit me, for the information of your readers in Richmond county, a summary of the operations of the Harrington Light Artillery, Capt. Louis H. Webb, since its entrance upon active operations.

The company reported in Richmond, Va., last May, and while awaiting its equipment for the field, was kept on active duty in and around that city until late in September.

During the "Seven Pines" and "Seven days'" fights below that city, it was on duty in one of the heavy batteries of the "inner lines." After the battle of "Gaines' Mills," and while the fight was still raging lower down the Chickahominy, a call was made upon our company for thirty men for temporary duty with the Crenshaw Light Artillery of Richmond—then ordered to the front—when, although only thirty were wanted, the whole Company fit for duty declared their readiness to go; and it became necessary, therefore, to choose from those volunteering, the number desired; and they were accordingly chosen and accompanied by our Captain and Lieut. Horne, (who, although no officers were called for or needed, were permitted to go with us.) We moved down the River with the pursuing forces of Gen'l Lee, and continued in the pursuit, without, however, getting under fire, until McClellan had reached the protecting shelter of his gunboats, when we were again ordered to Richmond, where we remained until we were fully equipped for Light Artillery service, about the last of September, with two six-pounder smooth-bores and two twelve-pounder Howitzers, the latter two being of the splendid battery of field guns surrendered to the State of North Carolina at the Fayetteville Arsenal.

On the night of the 1st of Nov'r last we were ordered suddenly from Richmond to Petersburg, and subsequently to the line of the Blackwater.

On the 23d of December our third piece, under the command of Serg't J. T. Gibson, engaged a squadron of the enemy's cavalry at Joyner's Bridge, when after a few well directed and rapid shots, they hastily left, carrying with them their killed and wounded, leaving on the field one horse fully equipped and numerous articles of wearing apparel, accoutrements, &c., which fell into our hands.

The first section of the battery, under Capt. Webb's immediate command, was ordered about the 10th of December to the point from which this is written, to prevent the approach of the enemy's gunboats a second time up Blackwater. The duties of the position were onerous and hard in the extreme—the officers, men and horses being almost worn out by two weeks' constant watching for and expectation of the approach of the boats, which however after keeping us thus constantly on the *qui vive*, by shelling the woods and moving about the waters of the Chowan and Blackwater junction, retired and have since given us no trouble.

We have made frequent marches across the river in the direction of Suffolk with the forces under General Pryor, causing not a little consternation among the yankees at that place; and last week one section of the battery, under command of Lieut. H. R. Horne, (of your town,) participated in the engagement at Kelly's in Nansemond county, some ten miles from Suffolk, between our forces, under Brig. Gen. Roger A. Pryor, and the enemy commanded by the notorious Jno. Corcoran of New York.

I am permitted to copy Lieut. Horne's report, which will sufficiently and plainly indicate the part which we took in that battle:—

"SOUTH QUAY, Feb. 1, 1863.

"Capt. L. H. WEBB, Com'dg Harrington Light Artillery:—I have the honor to report, that in obedience to your orders I moved on Sunday the 25th ult. with the 2d and 4th detachments of your Company and two 12 p'dr howitzers of your battery, with the forces of Brig. Gen'l R. A. Pryor; crossing the Blackwater river at "Old South Quay" to Somerton, and thence by short marches to Kelly's place on the road leading from Carrsville to Suffolk, where we bivouaced on the night of Thursday the 29th ult., the section of my command being parked about ¾ of a mile in the rear of our line of battle, or front of our forces.

"About 3½ o'clock A. M. on Friday, the enemy opening a heavy fire of artillery upon our advance, my section was immediately made ready for action but held in reserve until about 7 o'clock A. M., when our advance having retired to the position occupied by my section and one section of Capt. Martin's Battery, we opened upon the enemy at about 600 yards distance, and continued the fire until about 11 o'clock A. M., at which time the enemy's fire ceased.

"We moved thence about 1 o'clock P. M., with the column, to near Beaverdam Church, on the road from Carrsville to Franklin, where we bivouaced and remained until 12 o'clock the next day, whence we moved to and re-crossed the Blackwater river, reaching camp at South Quay about 5 P. M., 31st ult.

"The men under my command acted with remarkable coolness and courage, firing with great rapidity and accuracy, and where all did well, to particularize would be invidious.

"I am happy to report that though in an exposed position and under fire for several hours, no loss was sustained, and only three horses slightly wounded.

"I am, Captain, yours very respectfully,
"HENRY R. HORNE,
"Lt. Com'dg 2d Section
"Harrington Lt. Artillery."

As this was the first general engagement which many of our men had participated in, their coolness and excellent conduct under a galling fire speaks volumes for their bravery, their discipline and the excellence of their instruction.

During the above mentioned engagement, Capt. Webb, with the 1st section and a small force of infantry, was on duty guarding a crossing of the river below this place, he having been ordered to that position by Gen. Pryor, when the forces crossed over.

We are as pleasantly situated as we could desire, having comfortable quarters erected by ourselves, and at our own cost, and though we would greatly prefer to be facing the enemy on our own soil, yet in holding this point, only about 4 miles from the N. C. State line, we feel that we are defending the good Old State.

The health of our Company is excellent, and their spirits buoyant—if we can judge from the loud laughter now ringing through the camp, from a party snow-balling one of the Lieutenants, who has sought shelter from the furious fire of "bums" (as Sol calls them) behind a brush pile.

Yours, &c., MAC.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

Died at Gordonsville, Va., Dec. 6, of typhoid fever, private Willis Nye, Co. C, 54th N. C. Reg't, aged 34.

Also, at the Quarantine Hospital, 6 miles from Fredericksburg, in Jan'y, of small pox, Corp'l Jas. H. Brock, of Co. C, 54th Reg't, aged 19.

Also, 2d Feb'y, at Richmond Hospital, of typhoid fever, private James M. Hudson, Jr., Co. C, 54th Reg't, aged 18.

All number one soldiers, performing every duty without a murmur. Mr. Nye leaves a wife and four lovely little children to mourn their loss. He was a good husband, a good father. We tender his bereaved family our heartfelt sympathies. Corporal Brock and private Hudson were both young men just entering upon the threshold of manhood, upright and straightforward in their carriage. The company has sustained a serious loss by the death of these comrades in arms. We hope while we continue to live in defence of our country, that their departed spirits will again rejoin each other in the heavenly courts above, where sorrow, pain and warlike strife will never cross them more.

D. A. C.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

YADKIN COUNTY, Feb'y 10, 1863.

Messrs. E. J. Hale & Sons:—In your paper of the 26th Jan'y is an article from Chief Justice Pearson, which I think is calculated to do the Magistrates of this county injustice. I think the impression left on the minds of the readers would be that no provision is made for the support of soldiers' families.

At the beginning of the war we made an appropriation and appointed a committee to see that they should be provided for, and numbers were furnished; and at our Court in January last we made another appropriation of $20,000, with instructions to the agents to buy the provisions and distribute according to the number of children. And I assure you, so long as there is any property to tax we will support the families of conscripts as well as volunteers, for we make no distinction.

I know there will be suffering in the county for want of bread and meat; but it will be when the head of the family is at home.

I do not know an instance of the family of a soldier suffering, for they will be provided for by the County at any cost.

A MAGISTRATE OF YADKIN.

25 Negro Men wanted,

TO work on the W., C. and R. Railroad, grading near Rockingham—safe from the enemy and healthy.

Address the subscriber at Elizabethtown, Bladen county, N. C.

H. H. ROBINSON.

Feb'y 10, 1863. 2-4t

A Mule came to my stable on Sunday night last. The owner is requested to come and pay charges and take him away. Apply to Mrs. OTTARBURG, at the Wagon Yard.

Feb'y 4, 1863. 1202-2tpd

FROM THE NORTH.

New York papers of the 9th inst. have been received at Richmond.

They bring Yankee accounts of the naval fight at Charleston, which they allege was made unsuccessfully by our side for the rescue of the Princess Royal and her valuable cargo captured by the Blockaders a few days before. The following is their version of the fight:

"At daybreak two rebel ironclads were seen coming down from the direction of Stono Inlet towards our fleet. They attacked the Mercedita first. One ram struck her on the water ridge, keeling her over, and at the same time firing a shot, which entered one of her boilers, causing the death of three persons, including a gunner by a shot and steam. The ram then hailed the Mercedita, and Capt. Stellwagon lowered one of his small boats, after leaving one of the plugs out, allowing the water to enter it. The ram answered our hail by replying, "Confederate ram Palmetto State. Do you surrender?" This was repeated three times, Capt. Stellwagon replying at each inquiry, "I am in a sinking condition." The rebels answered, "God damn you to hell, if you don't surrender we will blow you out of water. Send your boat aboard."

The boat which Capt. Stellwagon lowered then conveyed his lieutenant to the side of the rebel ram, and the officer asked to be admitted on board. This was refused. The lieutenant then repeated Capt. Stellwagon's statement that "we are in a sinking condition." The rebel officer replied—"You can't sink lower than the rails; we cannot take you aboard." The officer then gave his parole, as demanded, and returned to his ship. The rebels were thus successfully deceived as to the condition of the Mercedita, thinking she was in a sinking condition. She laid in shoal water, and hence their reply that "she could not sink lower than her rails."

The ram then steamed towards the Keystone State, and sent a shot though her steam drum, causing the death of twenty-one persons—twelve by the shot and nine by being scalded by steam. Fifteen were wounded, and are lying at Port Royal, some in a precarious condition. In the meantime the U. S. gunboat Housatonic engaged the other ram, driving her away. At half-past six o'clock in the morning both rams left the scene and proceeded up to Charleston.

The Mercedita steamed down to Port Royal, escaping with only one of her boilers injured. She arrived safely at Port Royal, and would be repaired in a day. The Keystone State was entirely disabled, but was towed down to Port Royal by the Memphis.

The rebel statements that the Federal fleet had entirely disappeared from the port at Charleston are entirely unsustained by the facts. During the daytime our blockading fleet are not particular as to keeping to the station, and on the day of this assault most of the vessels sailed towards the Keystone State to ascertain her condition, and whether she wanted any assistance. Our vessels, as usual, resumed their position at dark.

Feeling at the North West.—The revolution in the Northwest is moving. Indiana, like New Jersey, has taken a firm stand for peace and against the further continuance of the war, and a set of joint resolutions have been introduced in the Legislature, covering a direct and peremptory demand for an armistice, and providing for a Convention of all the States, Southern as well as Northern, to be held at Nashville on the first Monday in June. The Indianapolis Journal, speaking of these resolutions, says that they embody "a long, bitter and dishonest collection of causes of complaint against the General Government, a direct and peremptory demand for an armistice, and a provision for the election of delegates in April to attend a national Convention of all the States, *rebel as well as loyal*, to be held at Nashville on the first Monday in June. They simply and explicitly declare that *this war shall end, and if the General Government won't quit fighting, the State shall proceed, independent of the Government, to make peace.*"

In the U. S. Senate on the 7th, Turpie, of Indiana, and Richardson, of Illinois, made strong Northwestern anti-abolition speeches. The former characterized Lincoln as a tyrant, and said that he would have no subjects west of the Alleghanies.

Battle of Fort Donelson.—Gen. Rosecranz reports that 4000 rebels attacked Fort Donelson on the 6th instant, and were repulsed with a loss of 100 killed and 300 prisoners. Yankee loss 12 killed and 30 wounded.

The French Intervention Schemes.—Among the papers in the French "Yellow Book" published in English papers by the last steamer is the following, giving a quietus to the speculations about French intervention. In soldiers' phrase we must rely for success upon God and the "crooks of our forefingers." The French Minister of Foreign affairs writes to the French Minister to the U. S.:—

PARIS, Nov. 13.

Sir—The proposition we made to London and to St. Petersburg, the text of which I dispatched to you by the last mail, has not met with the immediate acquiescence we had some reason to expect. Although we have received but summary information on this subject, I do not hesitate to look upon the common demand, in which we had reason to suppose Great Britain and Russia would associate themselves, as being possible to be realized.

Convinced as we were that an understanding between the three powers in the sense presented by us would answer as much the interests of the American people as our own; that even that understanding was in the present circumstances a duty of humanity, you will easily form an idea of our regret at seeing the initiative we have taken after mature reflection remain without results. Being also desirous of informing Mr. Dayton of our project, I confidentially communicated it to him, and even read in his presence the dispatch sent to London and St. Petersburg.

I could not be surprised that the Minister of the United States should oppose his objections to the project I communicated to him, and to hear him express personally some doubts as to the reception which would be given by the cabinet at Washington to the joint offers of the good offices of France, Russia and Great Britain. But whatever might have been the answer of the Federal Government to our overtures, we have not now to solicit or discuss it since the evident dispositions of the two latter Courts were to observe an absolute neutrality. We will return, like them, to the passive attitude which we had also made our duty to observe—an attitude from which we would never have departed had we remained indifferent to the present evils and the fatal consequences of the endless continuation of a devastating war.

The rumours re-echoed by the press on this occasion having seemed to us calculated to deceive public opinion, or at least to leave it in uncertainty about the true character of our movements, we have deemed it proper to cut short all hazardous conjectures, to place before the eyes of the world the plain terms of our proposition, confident of the approbation which the country will accord to our motives. We have thought that by giving open publicity to our intentions we would besides establish, against all contrary suppositions, the friendly and conciliatory spirit attending the offer of our good offices and the respect, which, however pressing, we would have manifested for the independence of the United States. In respect to this, sir, we believe that there will be no misunderstanding concerning the incentive of our conduct and of our sentiments, and we desire the Cabinet of Washington to discern in all that has just passed the proof that it will find us always disposed to lend it, if it should desire at some future time, the assistance we should have been happy to have seen accepted at the present time in the interest of peace and conciliation.

DROUYN DE L'HUYS.

Increasing Disaffection in Kentucky and Northwestern States.—MOBILE, Feb. 12.—A dispatch to the Advertiser dated McMinnville 11th, says that late Northern papers received there show that a great revolution is going on in all the Northwestern and Border States. The Louisville Journal says Lincoln is crazy. It begs him to rescind his Proclamation, and tells him that the western soldiers will not fight side by side with negroes. The soldiers at Murfreesboro', Tenn., had held a meeting upholding the democracy of their respective States. A bill has passed the federal Congress, authorizing Lincoln to raise and equip 150,000 negroes for the army and navy.

The Bombardment of Galveston.—RICHMOND, Feb 13.—The bombardment of Galveston by the Brooklyn and four other Federal steamers, was commenced on the 10th ult. The first day 107 shells were fired, several of them striking the hospital in which the Federals were who were wounded at the recapture of the city by our forces. A goat killed was the only casualty in the city. The next day two of the steamers left.

Dispatch.

From Newbern—Movements of the Enemy, &c.—CRAVEN COUNTY, Feb. 8.—Editor Progress: A deserter from the Yankee army says that Gen. Foster has left Beaufort harbor with the iron-clads and transport fleet with 35,000 or 45,000 men, and from what he, (the deserter) could learn before leaving the enemy's lines, Foster with his command had passed Wilmington and part of the fleet had gone into Port Royal, S. C. He thinks Charleston, Savannah, or Mobile is to be attacked, but also advises that a watch be kept on Wilmington. The deserter says there are 8,000 or 10,000 troops in and around Newbern, and that either Spinola or Hunt is in command. Gen Wessel's brigade is there, and he asserts that the whole brigade laid down their arms a week ago. He says that Capt. Whitford caused a great excitement in Newbern on Friday last by attacking the 92d N. Y. regiment at Barrington's Ferry, opposite Newbern. He ran their pickets in and killed 3 Yankees and wounded 5, without any loss to his own men. The 92d took to their heels and to their gunboats. The fright was so great that another regiment has been sent over to reinforce the 92d at Barrington's ferry on the North side of Neuse.

Capture of a Yankee Vessel.—We have just learned of a daring exploit which took place in eastern North Carolina, a few days since. A vessel laden wth supplies for the Buffaloe camp at Dr. Dillard's place, on the Chowan River, was becalmed in the mouth of the river. Mr. M. D. Hathaway, who has been an especial victim of Yankee hatred, and returns the feeling most cordially, collected a few troops who were in the neighborhood and successfully boarded the vessel, capturing the whole crew and cargo. The cargo was saved and the vessel burned. Our informant says that the Buffaloes were so incensed at the loss of their supplies, that they threatened to burn Mr. Hathaway's premises in the town of Hertford, and he fears they will execute their threats.—*Raleigh State Journal.*

More Yankee Villainy.—We learn from persons who left St. Augustine on Monday, that the vile Yankee military authorities there have again commenced a cruel persecution of the citizens, without regard to age, sex or condition. A large number of the men have been arrested and imprisoned, and the women and children have been summarily *ordered to leave*. When one of our informants made his escape, they were hastily gathering up their clothing, (all they would be permitted to carry,) and conveying it to the transport then in waiting for them; none knowing what was to be their destination. Notice has been received by General Finegan that the Yankees will to-day land 85 persons, women and children, at Clark's Bluff, near Fernandina.

Lake City, Fla. Columbian.

To be tried for Treason.—On Monday last, Gen. Finegan transferred to Archibald T. Banks, Esq., Commissioner of the C. S. District Court, James Conyers and Jacob T. Gillespie, who were captured by a detachment of Capt. Westcott's Company on the St. John's River, and charged with Treason to the Government of the Confederate States.

The Government was ably represented by Banks & McLeod, C. S Attorneys, and the Defendants by James A. O. Gerry, Esq. The prisoners were, by order of the Commissioner, placed into custody until the next regular Term of the C. S. District Court to answer a charge of Treason against the C. S. Government.

Lake City Columbian.

The Cotton in the South.—The British consuls at Charleston and Savannah have forwarded reports to Earl Russell on the subject of the stock of cotton on hand in the Southern States. Mr. Bunch, at Charleston, says there are four millions two hundred and fifty thousand bales of the staple which can be made available in Europe when the rebel "ports are opened." The crop of 1862 had added largely to the supply. Mr. Molyneux, at Savannah, says there are only three million five hundred thousand bales of cotton in the Southern States. He claims a deduction of one million of bales which have either been destroyed voluntarily by the Union troops or carried out through the blockade.

A Patriot.—W. C. Smith, Esq., the Senator from Anson and Union, instructed his overseer some months since, to sell corn at fifty cents per bushel, and only to the needy families of soldiers.

Fayetteville Water Works.

THE citizens of the town of Fayetteville will be furnished with Water at the following rates, the payments in every instance to be made semi-annually in advance. Mr. Wm. Brown, my Agent, will be around in a day or two to collect the bills now due.

TERMS.

For Hotels, $30 to $60;
Livery and Hotel Stables, $15;
Bar Rooms and Eating Houses, $15;
Banks, $15;
Private Boarding Houses, $15;
Dwelling Houses, $8 to $12;
Stores and Shops, $6 to $8;
Drug Stores, $10;
Barbers' Shops, $10;
Lawyers and Doctors' Offices, $5.

Wagoners from the country, and all transient persons, are privileged to use the water gratis.

JOHN W. BAKER, Jr.,
Sup't Fayetteville Water Works.

Feb'y 11, 1863. 2-4t

A BEAUTIFUL SITUATION.

I OFFER my Plantation for sale, containing 323 Acres, situated on the north side of Lower Little River, Eight miles south-east of Carthage in Moore county. The said Land is well adapted to the cultivation of all kinds of produce. A part of the cleared land is fresh and in a high state of cultivation. A comfortable Dwelling house, with all necessary out houses in good repair.

Any person wishing to buy can see me on the premises, or address me at Reedy Branch, Moore county, N. C.

ANGUS McNEILL.

Feb. 11. 2-4tpd

OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE.

MONDAY EVENING. FEBRUARY 16, 1863.

NORTH WESTERN DISAFFECTION.—The news is more and more cheering as to the indisposition of the yankee troops from the great North-West to fight any longer in this abolition war, and especially are they thoroughly disgusted at the idea of fighting side by side with Lincoln's 150,000 sable soldiers. The yankee Congress, with a want of sense that nothing short of madness can account for, has actually passed a law to raise such an army. If that don't give the finishing blow to the "universal yankee nation," it will only be because they achieve some great triumph within the next few days. And that, with the blessing of God, we think our army will not allow them to do. Let every soldier feel, that the next great battle will in effect close the war—use up the monsters—or protract it to a much longer period. If we whip them, they will not again come to a fight. If they whip us—the idea is not to be entertained for a moment—their spirits will rally and they will be as much as ever bent on subjugation. Let every Confederate soldier feel that the souls of a dozen men are nerving his own right arm, that he cannot and will not be conquered by the villain robbers and incendiaries who invade his home.

CONSCRIPTS AND DESERTERS.—We have received a letter asking information as to the exchange of some of Col. Mallett's Battalion, captured at Kinston. It seems that, living in the country, and not seeing papers regularly, they had been in doubt whether they had been exchanged, and if so, whether they were included in the order to return to camp enforced in the Governor's Proclamation. We reply that they have been exchanged, and were so ordered to return to duty. They are said to be anxious about their reception, now that the 10th of February, the day previous to which they were ordered to report themselves, has passed. We have of course no authority to speak positively as to that, but as it is manifestly the desire and the interest of the Confederate Government to get men for service, and not for execution, we can hardly go amiss in assuring all such persons as have erred through ignorance that there can scarcely be a doubt of their reception into their companies and regiments, if they will carry with them to camp a certificate from the Colonel of their county, or other well known person or official, stating that it has been with no intention to desert that they have been absent, but was owing to ignorance, sickness, or other sufficient cause.

Since the above was in type we have received Gov. Vance's Proclamation, published and noticed elsewhere.

TIME EXTENDED.—With sincere pleasure we publish Gov. Vance's Proclamation extending to the 5th March the time within which absentees from the army, whether deserters or conscripts or others, may return to their posts without other punishment than the loss of pay during the time they have been absent. We earnestly call upon every good man who can in any way influence one such absentee, to do his utmost and get him back to the post of duty and of honor, where he may participate in the closing scenes of what must be, and that speedily, a glorious termination of our great struggle for independence, for property, for life, and for honor.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, it has been made to appear to me that the terms of the Proclamation issued by me on the 26th ultimo, for the benefit of those members of our army who are absent from their colors without proper leave, may not have been known to all who might have desired to avail themselves of its merciful provisions in time for them to do so

Now therefore I, ZEBULON B. VANCE, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do issue this second Proclamation, extending the time limited in the former to the 5th day of March next. All such persons as above referred to, who shall have reported to their several camps by that day, will suffer no punishment for their past delinquencies. To those who shall not have so reported, nothing can be promised except the severest penalties of the military law.

In witness whereof, I, ZEBULON B. VANCE, (L. S.) Governor, Captain General and Commander-in-Chief, have signed these presents and caused the great Seal of the State to be affixed.

Done at our City of Raleigh, this 12th day of Feb'y A. D., 1863, and in the 87th year of our Independence.

By order of the Governor, Z. B. VANCE.

R. H. BATTLE, Jr., Private Secretary.

Feb'y 13. 3*3t

THE REVENUE LAW.—We copy from the Standard what is doubtless a very full synopsis of the provisions of this act, passed just before the adjournment of the Legislature. And we are indebted to Judge Shepherd's thoughtfulness for the following statement, which is important to several counties in this part of the State as well as further off:—

FEBRUARY 14, 1863.

Messrs. E. J. Hale & Sons: Gentlemen:—So many inquiries are made relative to the Revenue bill, that I ask an opportunity of answering them through your paper.

The land and slaves are to be assessed in value by the same persons, viz: a Justice of the Peace and two freeholders in each district of the county—in the Captain's or School districts, at the option of the Court. These assessors are to be appointed by the County Courts which shall meet between the first day of January and the first Monday of March. In all cases where the Courts have been held previous to the ratification of the Revenue Act, or where they may be held during this month without notice of its provisions, or where the first Court in the year is after the first Monday of March, the Chairman of the County Court or the Clerk, if there be no Chairman, is to call a Special Court to appoint the assessors and the takers of the tax lists. The assessments are to be made in March. The tax-lists are to be taken in April—last twenty working days—either by a Justice of the Peace or a Freeholder of skill and probity. The lists are to be rendered in to the Clerks by the takers of the same, as early as the second day of May. All the regular County Courts held between this date (the second day of May) and the first Monday of June, inclusive, will lay the taxes for County purposes: and in all cases where there is no regular Term within those dates, Special Terms are to be held as prescribed above—which Special Terms must in all cases be held by the first Monday of June.

The Act will be printed as early as practicable and distributed to Clerks, Sheriffs, Assessors and Takers of Tax-Lists. Hoping that this explanation may be of service to Counties where the Courts are to be held very soon, I ask its publication for the sake of your readers.

Very respectfully,

J. G. SHEPHERD

THE BATTLE OF FREDERICKSBURG.—The London Times's Richmond correspondent has been writing an account of the battle of Fredericksburg for that paper. We do not copy it—as we did his first letter—because it contains nothing of particular interest. There is one new statement in it, viz: that in the heat of the battle some confusion was created by the running of a regiment of North Carolina conscripts. Of course there is no truth in this, for North Carolina has no regiment of conscripts. There is one such battalion—Col. Mallett's—which was not at Fredericksburg, never having been out of the State, but about that time was fighting as gallantly as a regiment of veterans at Kinston.

The Times's correspondent, we suppose, is very much of a Virginian, and hearing that somebody had run saddled it on North Carolina as a matter of course. The larger part of the troops who fought at Fredericksburg were North Carolinians. The only allusion to them is that cited above.

"If we were in Raleigh, we could not be elected as a constable."—*Richmond Enquirer.*

That would depend upon whether you had any respectable and competent man to oppose you.

We learn from the Postmaster at Cowper Hill that our last two packages had not reached his office. We cannot account for the failures, for they certainly *started* right.

STATE TROOPS.—The Wilmington Journal says that we either misunderstand or misrepresent its meaning on this subject. In what particular? We gave its own language. Did it mean, as we supposed, that no other State had done what it was lately proposed that North Carolina should do? If so, this is neither misunderstanding nor misrepresentation. If not, we shall be happy to copy its disclaimer—as yet withheld.

The Journal again cites the cases of Georgia, South Carolina and Virginia, and makes very positive assertions of what it "*knows.*" We shall not follow the example. We do *not* know how many men between 18 and 45 are in the State Troops of Virginia and South Carolina. There is but one way of ascertaining, and that we suggested in our last. As to Georgia, if the Journal will publish the Georgia law, as we did, its error will be apparent. We need not again refer to Florida, for the Journal avoids the subject. Our own belief about the matter is that the old party feeling which manifested itself at Richmond immediately after the nomination of Gov. Vance is the sole cause of the muss about the proposed North Carolina troops. We cannot otherwise account for the bitter denunciation of North Carolinians for proposing to do what the other States have done, to a greater or less extent, without question of their right or their motive.

"*Repudiation Proposed.*"—Th Fayetteville Observer is down upon the Sentinel for having, as it states, made a proposition to repudiate the Confederate debt. We tell the Observer that we have done no such thing. We merely stated the proposition as a last resort, and as choice between two "monstrous" evils, one of which the Observer is in favor of, and thought that repudiation the smaller of the two. This is the extent of our erring. If the Observer had published our entire article under the head of "Assumption of the War Debt" we should have thought that paper inclined to do us justice.—*Winston Sentinel.*

We don't think the above has mended the matter for the Sentinel. The "two monstrous evils" that it speaks of, are, paying the Confederate debt, and repudiating it. We are in favor of paying it, and do *not* think "repudiation the smaller of the two." Our first and last resort is honestly to pay the debt. The Sentinel proposes to repudiate because it may be inconvenient to pay.

As to publishing the Sentinel's three column article! Whew! All we were called upon in conscience to do, we did, by publishing the part we commented on. The Sentinel does not do even that.

BLADEN COUNTY POOR.—We are requested by a citizen of Bladen county earnestly to call the attention of the Magistrates and people of that county to the many instances of destitution among the soldiers' families and other poor, aggravated by the enormous prices of corn and provisions. He informs us that the county has not appropriated a large amount to the relief of soldiers' families, and that some have not shared in even that fund. In his immediate neighborhood is one woman with nine small children, whose husband is in the army and whose only gratuity from the fund has been 12 lbs. of salt. Corn is held at $3 50 cash. How, he asks, can such poor people exist without assistance?

Bladen is a wealthy county. She is deeply, vitally interested in property that is now immensely valuable, but must be utterly valueless if Lincoln should be allowed to subjugate her. It is therefore wise economy, as well as true philanthropy, to see that the families of her brave defenders are so provided for as to cheer their hearts and nerve their arms for the great struggle. From what we know of the people of Bladen we have no doubt that they will cheerfully meet any proper requisition for this or other good purposes.

These remarks are addressed also to any and all other counties that have made inadequate provision for the soldiers' families.

SCARCITY OF FOOD.—A few weeks ago we gave a brief editorial notice of a communication from a gentleman who had traveled through the counties of Harnett, Moore, Randolph, &c., and who found abundance of food wherever he went. As we condensed his statement, so we must do with a reply from a soldier in camp, who is from the section referred to. He says our correspondent was "*humbugged* into his idle dreams of plenty," that "there is not a supply in those counties to meet the demand," that the growing wheat crop "at the best cannot equal one-fourth of what has usually been made there." He remarks with great force and justice upon the necessity of a united effort of our whole people, men, women and children, to sustain our just and holy cause; and *knows* that there have been in some counties failures, sometimes wilful and sometimes otherwise, to perform the duty of relief, where relief had been provided. He speaks very bitterly of the Shylocks who, instead of being in the field are at this moment at home sucking the life blood of the soldiers'" wives next door to them—"those soldiers who have waded in the blood of many a battlefield for the salvation and deliverance of the country." Our correspondent says in conclusion:

"I am a citizen of one of the counties named by your correspondent. My wife and children—interests as dear to most men as the salvation of their "adopted country"—are there and without more assistance than I can render them on $11 pay per month—must suffer, *—are now suffering.* Please tell me what Governor Vance will do for my wife and children when men high in the social circle in that neighborhood say to the world that no one is suffering—that there is plenty made and plenty making."

THE LATE LIEUT. ANGUS SHAW.—We are permitted to publish the following letter from his Colonel in reference to the death of this gallant soldier and estimable gentleman, whose great worth we learned while serving together in the ranks:—

CAMP GREGG, NEAR FREDERICKSBURG, VA. January 28th 1863.

Mrs. Angus Shaw:—My Dear Madam:—Permit me at this late hour, to express my deep sympathy for the great loss you sustained when the late much lamented, and greatly missed Lt. Shaw fell. My dear Madam, he was an ornament to his Regiment and was considered as one of our best and bravest officers. When any perilous adventure was to be undertaken and a cautious, brave and prudent officer was wanted to lead it he was selected, and when a volunteer was wanted for any secret, confidential and of unknown peril, he was always among the first to offer his services to lead it. On the bloody field of Mechanicsville, where our Regiment was so badly cut up in charging a battery, Lt. Shaw was among the foremost, leading his men where honor called him, and in as gallant a charge as was ever made, he was wounded. At the same time I had the misfortune of receiving a serious wound, and only rejoined my Reg't one month ago. I knew your gallant husband while a member of the Bethel Reg't, and had formed an attachment for him that will never be erased, and none fell on that fatal day whose loss I deplored more.

May God, who watches over all, soon send peace to our unhappy country and protect you, is the prayer of the friend of your husband,

Wm. J. HOKE, Col. 38th N. C. T.

☞ Owing to the late arrival of the mails, we have several times recently been compelled to issue the Observer to our town readers an hour or two later than we could wish. This occurs more particularly on Thursdays, when two of the Southern mails, which carry hundreds of our papers, are ready to leave even before we can print enough papers to supply them. The contractor obligingly waits; but it would be unreasonable to ask him to wait still longer till our town readers are supplied. And so between the late arrival of some and the early departure of other mails, instead of 11 to 12 o'clock, it happens to be past 1 before we issue to town subscribers. We mention this in explanation to the throng of persons whom we find waiting on such occasions. The roads will be better soon, we hope, and we can return to old customs.

THE STEAMER KATE MCLAURIN.—We are glad to learn from Mr Orrell's Card that this sunken boat has been raised. She is expected here in two or three weeks.

Gen. D. H. Hill.—We are glad to learn that the command in North Carolina has been offered to that worthy gentleman and tried soldier, Gen. D. H. Hill, and that he is expected to accept the charge.—*R. Progress, 14th.*

[illegible] session may be seen by reference to the [illegible] lutions, a list of which we publish in the preceding page. The Raleigh papers furnish no item of interest in the proceedings of Thursday, more than the usual votes of thanks to the Speakers.

The whole number of acts passed at the two sessions of 61 days, is 151, of resolutions 106.

P. S. We find this morning that the List of Acts in the preceding page is incomplete. The following, from a list sent us by the Standard, are to be added:—

69. Amending charter of Asheville
70. Anti-distillation act.
71. Concerning sheriffs and their sureties.
72. Amending amended militia law.
73. Concerning Mitchell Co. County site.
74. In favor of W. W. Proffitt's sureties.
75. To prevent slaves from making or trading in spirituous liquors.
76. Concerning the statute of limitations.
77. To suspend 3d, 4th and 5th sections, 17th chapter Revised Code.
78. To extend charter of Pittsboro' and Haywood Plank Road.
79. To extend time of perfecting titles to land heretofore entered.
80. In favor of sureties of John B. Willis.
81. To provide for holding courts in Hertford.
82. To incorporate Branch Monument Association.
83. To amend an act entitled "Militia."
84. To authorize certain alterations in treasury office.
85. To incorporate Springfield Literary Society.
86. For relief of persons who have or may overpay taxes.
87. To incorporate the town of Marshall.
88. To prevent, during the existing war, monopolies, extortions and speculation in breadstuffs and other articles of general use and consumption, and to make such acts criminal and to provide *penalties* for the same.
89. To authorize a special term of Randolph county court to do other county business in addition to laying county taxes.
90. To amend Rev Code in relation to *habeas corpus.*
91. To amend 102d chap. Rev. Code, entitled "salaries and fees."
92. In favor of A. A. Wiseman.
93. In relation to the bounty of soldiers.
94. Concerning Common Schools
95. In reference to taxes and liabilities of Sheriffs.
96. In favor of H. Hunter, late sheriff of Madison.
97. To incorporate Rhymer Gold and Copper Mining Company.
98. To amend 2d sec. 64th chap. Rev. Code.
99. To incorporate Yadkin Valley and Western Railroad Comp.
100. To incorporate Randolph Manf. Company.
101. Concerning the Courts of Caldwell and Franklin counties.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE OBSERVER.

RALEIGH, Feb. 14

The two Houses of the Legislature closed their session at 4 o'clock P. M. of Thursday. In the House of Commons not a single bill remains upon the Speaker's file; in the Senate, there would have been nearly the same result but on Wednesday some member moved a call of the House. But for this many private bills would have been disposed of.

You will see by the captions that for sessions [inclusive 61 days] there has been a considerable amount of work done. The House of Commons branch could not have been called a speaking body in comparison with that of other Legislatures; there were no great debates claiming a place in the forensic history of North Carolina; yet there were discussions of much interest and developing talent heretofore unknown. I remember well a rather rough remark made of the member from Randolph, Mr Robbins, when that gentleman replied to Judge Person as to the inequalities of taxation between the East and West; a member near me remarked, "that quiet creature in the corner is no fool, he's talking sense and putting it together right too." And it was the general opinion that his argument was as correct as his sense was good.

Another member, who, I may say, rose from almost obscurity to the highest rank in the House, is Capt. Eugene Grissom of Granville. Severely wounded at Malvern Hill, he showed by acts as well as words his devotion to our cause, and without at all impugning the motives of others I may say that he, being denied by the Government at Richmond the privilege resigning, has refused to receive any of his per diem pay. Others differ with him in opinion and have drawn theirs; in the language of the *pro tem* Speaker of Wednesday night, "both are right." I have before taken the liberty to speak of Mr. Grissom. I shall add but little here. As a speaker, he is deliberate, his voice rings out clear and distinct, and his manner is pleasant. He is a fine looking man, and one who, I should say, would be attractive to the ladies. Should he not meet with the fate of the gifted Crumpler, the witty Davis and the determined and talented Marsh, he will some day be a prominent man in our State and country.

As a parliamentarian, Judge Shepherd was the only member, except the present Speaker, who could lay claim to even mediocrity. But he never allowed his dignity to be lowered by indulging in scenes of "staving off," or defeating a bill by motions and amendments, sometimes so common in legislative bodies. Judge Shepherd is too well known in your section as a speaker for me to describe him. In the House he always commanded attention, because he was respected and because his opinions were expressed honestly without reference to what might or might not be the after effect of this or that vote.

The present Speaker of the House of Commons, Hon. R. S. Donnell, is a man of the first grade in intellect and education. If he had had the ambition, he could have filled many a place of high position; whereas the highest position to which the equal of Badger and Graham has ever attained, is that of member to the old U. S. House of Representatives. As a presiding officer, he cannot be surpassed; his decisions are clear and he is firm in them, as well as in his adherence to what is good order and will promote dispatch of business.

[The remainder of our correspondent's letter, promised this morning, has not reached us.]

CONGRESS.—On Wednesday nothing of interest was done in open session. A currency bill passed the Senate in secret session and was sent to the House for similar consideration there. Of course we know nothing of its provisions.

On Thursday, Exemption was discussed by both Houses. The Senate had under consideration the House bill repealing the plantation clause, and the House a bill repealing the present law and giving power to exempt to the President and Secretary of War.

On Friday, the committee on military affairs reported adversely upon the proposition to enroll government employees as conscripts. The exemption bill was discussed until adjournment. The House passed a bill allowing the soldiers $5 per month for deficiencies in rations. Also the impressment bill, which empowers any officer commanding a military district to impress property when it cannot be otherwise procured; the impressment of slaves to be in accordance with State laws, but in the absence of such laws, in accordance with rules prescribed by the Secretary of War. No slaves to be impressed where they can be hired at the usual market rates, and no individual to be deprived of provisions required for support of his family, nor except under extreme cases, of grain, forage, slaves or other property necessary for plantation,—compensation to be made for property seized, and if the owner and impressing officers cannot agree, it shall be determined by three disinterested persons; property lost, destroyed, or injured, to be paid for by the government. Penalties are attached for impressing property in violation of the act.

Had him, decidedly.—A letter from the Valley of Virginia has the following good one:—

A few days ago a Yankee upstart summoned an aged civilian to appear before him to furnish some information. When duly arraigned, the Yankee began:

Do you know of any one who has furnished supplies to the rebels?

Old Man.—I believe I do.

Yank.—Who was it?

Answer.—General Banks.

Yank.—Sergeant, take him to the guardhouse. Wait a while. Now, old white-headed rebel, mind whose presence you are in, and answer correctly. Do you know any one who has been passing through our lines and back again to the rebels, carrying information?

Ans.—Yes, sir, I do.

Yank.—Who was it?

Ans.—Gen. J. E. B. Stuart.

Yank.—Sergeant, take him to the guardhouse.

Gen. Morgan.—Col. R. M. Geno, of Texas, gives the Vicksburg Whig the following statistics of Morgan's career:

"He has fought 58 battles, killed 280 Yankees, wounded 372, captured 4,233, and destroyed property to the amount of $15,163,000, all with a force of 800, and with very small loss. In his late affair at Hartsville, the first time he commanded a brigade, he killed 10, wounded 18, captured 1,350, took six pieces of artillery and carried away or destroyed $65,000 worth of property."

Blockade Raised.—On Saturday last, the three gunboats blockading the Roanoke river at Plymouth, were dispersed by what they doubtless conceived to be a masked battery approaching them. Broadside after broadside was fired at the destructive monster as it approached them, but without effect. Onward it came steadily, not heeding the numerous missiles that were cast at it, until its near approach induced them to slip their cables and make their escape. What think you was the cause of this sudden stampede? It was a raft of drift wood, which had been wafted down the river by the recent freshets. We are informed that about one hundred and twenty shell were thrown at this suspected masked battery.—*Tarboro' Southerner. 14th.*

FOR THE OBSERVER.

The Young Ladies' Knitting Society acknowledges its obligations for the following contributions: Lieut Jarvis B. Lutterloh $10; Mrs Blocker $4; Mr Henry Johnson $8; Mrs Chas Smith 3 prs hospital shoes; Miss S A Tillinghast 6 prs gloves.

Next meeting will be held at the Donaldson Academy.

FROM THE NORTH.

[illegible] Richmond. The news is interesting.

Intervention again.—The Europa has arrived at Halifax. It is reported that she brings a proposition from Napoleon offering mediation between the North and South; that both appoint Commissioners to meet in Montreal or Mexico, and arrange preliminaries for peace. A Washington telegram to the New York Express says that it is reported that Seward has rejected the proposition, but the Washington Chronicle denies that there has been any such indication from the Government, and adds: There is reason to doubt that portion of the news stating that a suspension of hostilities is included in the terms.

The reported rejection caused Gold in New York to advance from 162½ to 156½, but subsequently fell to 154½.

The Florida and the Alabama.—The Florida was at Nassau the last of January, and left the week afterwards. She was chased for thirty-six hours but escaped. The Alabama landed 100 prisoners at Kingston, from the Hatteras, which she sunk. She put into Kingston for repairs, and six Yankee vessels were watching for her.

From Vicksburg.—Admiral Porter reports an unsuccessful attempt of the Queen of the West to capture the Confederate steamer City of Vicksburg. He acknowledges that the former with difficulty escaped destruction. She was struck twelve times, and had one gun dismounted.

Peace and War Resolutions.—Strong peace resolutions have been introduced in the New Jersey Legislature, proposing to appoint commissioners to Richmond to ascertain whether the Confederate States will consent to reaffirm their adhesion to the Union and to recognize the Constitution; if not, on what terms peace can be restored. A series of vigorous war resolutions were also introduced.

Desertions.—A Rappahannock correspondent reports innumerable desertions from the yankee army. He says that there are 250 heinous cases in which death is punishment must follow.

MOBILE, Feb'y 13.—The Southern Crisis, of the 11th inst. learns from a distinguished citizen of one of the Northwestern States, that Indiana, Illinois and Ohio have determined to stop the war, and make terms of peace with the Confederate States at all hazards, otherwise the Northwest will make war against the aggressor. Citizens of these States, drafted or enrolled, are leaving the army by hundreds and regiments, and no authority to control this movement. Of 150,000 under Grant and McClernand, only 40,000 effective soldiers remain, and that number is daily diminished by mortality from sickness and voluntary abandonment.

The Legislatures of Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Kentucky will convene at Frankfort, in general convention, on the 18th February, to agree upon a North West Confederacy, propose terms of peace and commerce with the Confederacy for the States bordering on the Mississippi and its tributaries, proposing offensive and defensive terms with, or an adoption of, the Confederate States Constitution, to incorporate these new members into the Confederacy if agreeable to the people of the Confederate States, but in any event relations of peace, amity and commerce with the South. Commissioners will bear the result to Richmond, to treat with the Confederate Government for the final and satisfactory adjustment of all interests.

This informant says that he expects no more general engagements, and by the first of April there will be a practical cessation of hostilities in the Southwest, and by the 1st of June a permanent peace unless the Republicans wage a war against the Northwest.

[The Northern news that reaches us from the Southwest, experience has shown, must be taken with allowances. The above is doubtless too highly colored by the telegraph on the sanguine temperament of the editor of the Crisis or his informant. Probably the truth is not that such action has been already taken by the States named, but that a strong and growing party is proposing it. The following on the same subject is taken from late Northern papers:—

Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois.—A telegram from Frankfort, Ky., published in the Cincinnati Commercial, of the 30th ult., says:

The rebels, under the name of the Peace Department, held a caucus here to-night. A great many prominent traitors from this State are present, and many from Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois.

The Indianapolis correspondent communicates thus:

I am informed that letters have been received here from members of the Kentucky and Illinois Legislatures, in which they promise to meet the Indiana Legislature at Louisville, Ky., on the 22d of February.

On which the Commercial remarks:

A movement has been set on foot in the Indiana Legislature for a grand pow-wow of the Legislatures of Kentucky, Illinois, and Indiana, at Louisville, on the 22d of February next.

Our Loss at Donelson.—CHATTANOOGA, Feb'y 13.—Our loss at Donelson has been greatly magnified. We learn that we lost but 98 men, killed, wounded and missing. The enemy confess to a loss of 14 killed and 37 wounded. We captured one cannon, destroyed one transport, and paroled 80 prisoners. Our forces consisted of Forest's and Wharton's Brigades, the loss being confined almost exclusively to Forest's command.

From Vicksburg.—VICKSBURG, Feb. 13.—Our authorities appear to anticipate an early attack, and our forces are prepared for the enemy night or day. All is quiet now.

From Charleston.—CHARLESTON, Feb. 13.—A Yankee picket captured on Wednesday evening by our scouts on Hilton Head island confirms the intelligence of an impending attack on Charleston, and thinks it will be made in about a fortnight.

From Eastern North Carolina.—The Raleigh State Journal has a letter from Kinston, Feb'y 13th, stating that two companies of Major Nethercutt's Rangers had been surprised and captured by the yankees 14 miles from Newbern. The Progress has information that 30 or 40 of our men were captured. But a gentleman arrived here yesterday who left Goldsborough on the afternoon of the 14th, and informs us that the report was discredited there.

MARRIED,

On 22d of Jan'y, in Bladen County, by Rev. R. M. Sessoms, Mr. DAVID J. MELVIN of Cumberland, to Miss MAG C., daughter of John and Jane M. Monroe.

In Randolph county, at the residence of Mr. Alfred Smith, on the 5th inst., by Joseph L. Reece, Esq., Dr. W. S. McLEAN of Chatham, to Miss ELIZA A., daughter of the late Dr. Adams of Alamance.

At the residence of the bride's father, on Sunday the 8th inst., by Rev. Isaac Coe, Capt. H. R. McKINNEY, of Co. A, 46th Reg't N. C. T., and Miss LUCINA MARTITIA, daughter of Lemuel Linebery, of Randolph Co., N. C.

DIED,

On the 13th inst. at 3½ o'clock, Col. THOMAS WADDILL, in the 58th year of his age. He leaves a wife, children, and a large circle of relatives to mourn his loss, yet we rejoice to know that he had no fears in passing through the dark valley of the shadow of death. He knew that his earthly ties must soon be dissolved, and with the sorrow that worketh repentance made his peace with God, and died in the communion of the Holy Catholic Church.

Thou O Lord didst give us our father and Thou hast taken him hence to a better place. We humbly submit to Thy all-wise decree; Thy will O God be done; and be Thy holy name ever blessed. ***

Wadesboro' Argus please copy.

At Cheraw, S. C., 6th inst., Rev. JOHN C. COIT in the 63d year of his age.

Near Harrison Creek, on the 11th inst., CHARLES HALL, Esq., aged about 63 years. The deceased fell a victim to the prevailing epidemic, Small Pox, leaving a large family to mourn their loss.

Near Owensville, Sampson County, N. C., Jan'y 1st, of Small Pox, Mr. LUKE HALL. The deceased was a consistent member of the Baptist Church and died in full triumph of the Christian faith. As a citizen he was quiet and peaceable, as a husband kind and affectionate, as a father none excelled him. He leaves a companion and five small children and many friends to mourn their loss.—COM.

At Carbonton, Saturday morning, Feb'y 7th, ISABELLA DAVIS, youngest daughter of R. A. and Catharine Stuart, aged 2 years, 7 months and 27 days.

Died, on the 27th ult., of scarlet fever, PATTIE, infant daughter of J. L. and S. J. Arrington, of Halifax, aged one year, five months and fourteen days. "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away: blessed be the name of the Lord."

A CARD.

I HAVE just to day got my boat, the Kate McLaurin, on the railways.

For valuable aid in raising and getting her thus far on, I desire to acknowledge my obligations to Dr. H. H. Robinson, Col. J. L. McMillan, Maj. George Tate and Dr. Bizzell of Elizabeth, and to Col. deLaguel, Capt. Hurt, Capt Lutterloh, W. T. Rhodes, Esq., Sheriff McNeill, C. B. Mallett, Esq., and to Mayor McLean of our own place.

R. M. ORRELL.

Feb'y 13, 1863. 3-

FAYETTEVILLE MARKET.—Feb. 16.

REVIEW OF THE MARKET.

Bacon—Old 55 to 60, new 45 to 50. Lard 40.
Beef 20 to 25 by the side; 15 to 25 at retail.
Butter 75 to $1
Beeswax 60.
Chickens 35 to 50.
Copperas 1 25 to 1 50.
Cotton 18 to 20 cts.
Cotton Yarn $3 to $4 per hunch.
Dried Fruit—Apples 10, peaches 15.
Eggs 40 to 60 per dozen.
Flour—Last sales Family 41 50, super $40, fine $39.
Forage—Fodder $3 per hundred; Hay $2; Shucks $2.
Flaxseed 3 50 per bu.
Grain—Corn 3 50. Wheat $5 to 6 50. Rye 3 50 to $4. Oats 2 25. Peas 3 50.
Hides—Green 50, dry $1.
Iron—Swedes 50.
Leather—Sole $3 per lb., Upper 3 50.
Liquors—Corn Whiskey $20 per gallon; Apple Brandy $18; Peach Brandy $18.
Molasses—N O $6 per gallon.
Nails—$1 per lb. at retail.
Pork 38 to 40.
Potatoes—Irish $6 to 6 50 per bu.
Rice, 12½ by the cask.
Sugar retailing at 75 to $1.
Salt—Sound 15 to 20 cents per lb.
Fayetteville Sheetings, 36 to 60 cts. Osnaburgs 40 to 60 cts.
Spirits Turpentine 40 to 50 cts per gallon.
Tallow 60. Wool 1 75 to 2 00.

Corrected by PEMBERTON & SLOAN.

ANTIOCH ACADEMY,

ROBESON COUNTY, N. C.

I WILL open a School in the above Academy on Monday Feb'y 16th. The situation is healthy and in a pleasant neighborhood. Board can be had in the neighborhood on reasonable terms.

Tuition per session of five months $8, $12 and $15.

For further particulars address Principal at Randalsville, N. C.

WM J. STUART, Principal.

Feb'y 11, 1863. 1*4wpd

TEACHER WANTED.

IT being determined by the Trustees of the Carolina Female College to reopen the Institution at the earliest possible day, a married gentleman of some experience is desired to take charge of it, a Methodist preferred. One or two Ladies are wanted as instructors; they must be competent to teach music on the Piano in addition to the higher branches of English literature. For terms, address, giving references,

WILLIAM G. SMITH, Pres. Bd. Trustees.

Ansonville, N. C., Feb'y 9. 3-6pd

FOR SALE.

ON Thursday next, the 19th inst., at 12 o'clock M., at the Market House, I will sell for Cash a young, likely negro woman—a first rate cook, washer and ironer.

JOHN H. COOK, Auct'r.

Feb. 16. 1t-

WANTED.

WE wish to employ immediately, a few CARPENTERS, BRICK MASONS, and LABORERS, at the Eagle Foundry.

D. ANDERSON & CO.

Feb'y 14, 1863. 3-3ti

Wanted to Purchase,

NORTH CAROLINA BANK NOTES, Virginia Bank Notes, South Carolina Bank Notes, Georgia Bank Notes, Tennessee Bank Notes, Alabama Bank Notes.

T. S. LUTTERLOH.

Feb'y 16, 1863. 3-3t

LOST,

A SMALL buckskin purse, between Liberty Point and the half way bridge, containing 1 gold watch key, with a likeness in it, 1 gold sleeve button, some receipts, and ten or twelve dollars in cash. The finder may have the purse and the money if they will leave the other things at this office.

Feb'y 14, 1863. 3tf

Furniture and Crockery at Auction.

ON Tuesday next 17th inst., I shall sell a lot of CROCKERY and GLASSWARE, one PIANO, in order.

20 SACKS SALT, and a variety of other articles.

J. H. COOK, Auct'r.

Feb'y 14. 1t

SPECIE WANTED.

A Small amount of GOLD or SILVER wanted. Apply at this Office.

Feb'y 16.

FOR SALE,

FINE TOOTH COMBS.
PINS.
SNUFF.
TOBACCO.
SLEYS, &c.

Also a few Ladies' CLOAKS, at ISAAC HOLLINGSWORTH'S.

Feb'y 16. 3-4tipd

H. DAY,

Apothecary,

Is obliged to ask those who may obtain Medicine, by sending servants, to call and settle once a month at farthest. 3-3t

WANTED,

A FEW bbls. of GOOD LARD. The highest cash price paid for the same at

P. P. JOHNSON'S.

Fayetteville, Feb'y 16, 1863. 3-2ti

Wanted to Purchase Immediately,

2 LIKELY YOUNG NEGROES, from 8 to 10 years of age, one boy the other a girl, for which I will pay a liberal cash price. Apply at the Photographic Gallery.

C. M. VANORSDELL.

Feb'y 16. 3itf

COFFEE.

THE fabulous prices to which things have risen, especially provides and physic, compel me—though with reluctance—to advance one hundred per cent. on my former rates of charging.

Dr. A. C. BULLA.

Feb'y 11, 1863. 8-6tpd

STRAYED,

FROM the subscriber in November last, seven head of SHEEP, all black and all Ewes, bearing the mark of swallow-fork in the right ear and a crop off and half moon in the left. I bought the Sheep from Lauccelot Jones, in Sampson county, and I think they are trying to get back. Four of them, when heard from last, were in Johnston county, near John Harper's, on the Fayetteville road; the other three were in the edge of Sampson county, near Theop's Sutton's, on the Clinton road. Any information respecting them will be thankfully received, and the person stopping them will be paid for trouble.

W. C. GODWIN.

Newton Grove, N. C., Feb. 12, 1863. 3*4tpd

FARM FOR SALE.

I WISH to sell about 430 Acres of LAND, situated on the East side of the Big Swamp, in Bladen County, half a mile below Mayaville, and three miles from the Cape Fear River. There are about 125 Acres of this Land which is cleared and ready for cultivation; there is also a good House upon it, suitable for the accommodation of quite a large family, and the necessary out houses. The balance of the Land is well timbered with Pine, Oak, Gum, &c. No better range for cattle or hogs can be found in this section of country. For further particulars address me at Elizabethtown, or D. M. Fayles, Wilmington, or Jas. O. Barry, at Fayetteville.

J. T. NURNEY.

If the above Land is not sold before the 2d of March, it will be offered at public auction, at the Court House in Fayetteville.

Feb'y 2. 99-8tpd

State of North Carolina,

RICHMOND COUNTY

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Jan'y Term, 1863.

ORDERED by the Court that the Clerk of said Court notify the following persons to appear and pay the Taxes due on the following described lands as returned by the Sheriff of said county, or they will be sold for the taxes:

Alex Morchison 1000 acres, $5000 val., $27 50 tax, 1861, Naked Creek and Rocky Fork.
Wm Hadley 650 acres, $450 val., $5 83 tax, 1860-'61, Black Branch of Solomon's Creek.
Jno. Hadley 100 acres, $80 val., 22 cts. tax, 1861, Beaver Dam and South Falling Creek.
Hampton Hadley 200 acres, $80 val., 44 cts. tax, 1861, Beaver Dam and South Falling Creek.

L. H. WEBB, Clerk.

Feb'y 12. 3-4tpd

Notice to Absentees and Others.

IN obedience to special order No. 7 from Division Headquarters—Gen. D. H. Hill's,—the undersigned have been detailed to collect conscripts, volunteers and absentees from the 3d and other Regiments.

They urge upon all such to come forward and report to them without delay; and they warn absentees that a failure to do so will subject them to the charge and punishment for desertion. Proper measures have been adopted to arrest all such as do not voluntarily surrender themselves.

JNO. COWAN, 3d Infantry N. C. Troops.
ELISHA PORTER, " " " "
W. J. Y. THURSTON, " " " "
A. J. CASTEEN, " " " "

All persons wishing to see me can do so by calling at Mrs. Johnson's, at Liberty Point, below the Market House.

I will be at Jonesboro', Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 19th, 20th and 21st inst., hoping to meet all absentees and others from Moore county.

WM J. Y. THURSTON,
2d Lieut. Co. C, 3d N. C. T.

Feb'y 16, 1863. 3-4tpd

Attention! Conscripts!

HAVING been detailed to recruit for Company D, 51st Reg't N. C. Troops, familiarly known as Capt. J. R. McDonald's Company, I wish to enlist six or seven sound healthy men.

All conscripts who will be obliged to go into the service had better avail themselves of the present opportunity of enlisting in one of the finest companies in the service. Col. C. E. Leete will enlist all who may decide to join this company in and around Fayetteville. I will be at home for the next fifteen or twenty days, during which time I wish to fill up my company.

J. D. MALLOY,
Lieut. Co. D, 51st Reg't N. C. T.

Lumber Bridge, N. C. Feb. 14. 3-3pd

RECRUITS WANTED

For Capt. McLauchlin's Company of Cumberland County.

I HAVE been detailed a short time on Recruiting service: any wishing to volunteer in said company can have an opportunity of doing so. I will be happy to meet and receive your names at the different places and times specified:

At Silver Run muster ground and Fayetteville, on Saturday the 21st. At the same places on the 28th C. E. Leete will receive your names at Fayetteville at any time you call on him at his store. I will receive your names at Silver Run.

Any wishing to join other companies, I will receive your names also. If you wish to join a good company, join Capt. McLauchlin's, for it is one of the best companies now in service. If you want to do anything for your country, now is the time; come forward and do what you can. She needs your service, and if every man will come forward and do his part we may expect a speedy and honorable peace.

R. J. HARRISON,
Recruiting Officer, 38th Reg't, Co. K

Fe

FOR THE OBSERVER.

SOVEREIGNTY OF THE STATES—RIGHT OF SECESSION.

The very able Message of President Davis at the opening of the present session of Congress, presents the following interesting views in respect to the sovereignty of the States, in connection with our relations with other nations, and to what he regards as the secession of the States from the Confederation as well as the government of the United States:

"In this connection, the occasion seems not unsuitable for some reference to the relations between the Confederacy and the neutral powers of Europe since the separation of these States from the former Union.

"Four of the States now members of the Confederacy, were recognized by name as independent sovereignties in a treaty of peace, concluded in the year 1783, with one of the great maritime powers of Western Europe, and had been, prior to that period, allies in war of the other. In the year 1778 they formed a Union with nine other States under articles of Confederation. Dissatisfied with that Union, three of them, Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia, together with eight of the States now members of the United States, seceded from it in 1789, and these eleven seceding States formed a second union although by the terms of the Articles of Confederation express provisions were made that the first union should be perpetual. Their right to secede, notwithstanding this provision, was neither contested by the States from which they separated, nor made the subject of discussion with any third power. When, at a later period, North Carolina seceded to that second union, and when, still later, the other seven States, now members of this Confederacy, became also members of the same Union, it was upon the recognized footing of equal and independent sovereignties, nor had it then entered into the minds of men that sovereign States could be compelled, by force, to remain members of a confederation into which they had entered of their own free will, if, at a subsequent period, the defence of their safety and honor should, in their judgment, justify withdrawal. The experience of the past had evinced the futility of any renunciation of such inherent rights, and accordingly the provision for perpetuity contained in the Articles of Confederation of 1778 was omitted in the Constitution of 1789. When, therefore, in 1861 eleven of the States again thought proper, for reasons satisfactory to themselves, to seceded from the second union, and to form a third one under an amended Constitution, they exercised a right which, being inherent, inquired no justification to foreign nations, and which international law did not permit them to question. The usages of intercourse between nations do, however, require that official communication be made to friendly powers of all organic changes in the constitution of States, and there was obvious propriety in giving prompt assurance of our desire to continue amicable relations with all mankind. It was under the influence of these considerations that your predecessor, the provisional Government, took early measures for sending to Europe Commissioners charged with the duty of visiting the capitals of the different powers, and making arrangements for the opening of more formal diplomatic intercourse."

A recent number of the Richmond Enquirer awards to the venerable Hugh Blair Grigsby, LL. D., of the Norfolk bar, the credit of having been the first to suggest the argument in favor of the sovereignty of the States founded on our alliance with France during the Revolutionary War and the Treaty of Peace with Great Britain on the 3d September 1783. The Enquirer of the 28th ult. contains a letter signed *Virginiensis*, evidently from the pen of the same eminent writer. We copy it, without abridgment or alteration, except the italicising of a single period to which we desire to direct the attention of the reader:

CHARLOTTE C. H., Va., Jan. 25, 1863.

"To the Editors of the Enquirer:—Gentlemen:—In the admirable message of the President to Congress, at the beginning of its present session, I perceived that the date of the ratification of the articles of Confederation is said to be 1778; and you will remember that I had expressly stated in my answer to "Historicus," and founded what I deemed a valid argument upon the statement, that the true date was 1781. As sufficient time for the correction of any typographical errors in the message has elapsed, and no such correction has been seen by me, I am bound to believe that the date of 1778, mentioned in the message, was believed to be the true date. Now, as the birth of a federal treaty, like the birth of an individual, cannot be at two several periods of time, either the date of 1778, specified in the message, or the date of 1781, specified by me, must be erroneous; and it is due to myself as well as to you, whose columns have afforded me for more than the third of a century a courteous reception, to show that I have not begun at this late day to lead you astray. The question then arises: When did the articles of Confederation become the law of the land?

"At the first blush it should be seen that the date specified in the message was true beyond the possibility of cavil for the last sentence of the articles of Confederation is in these words: "Done at Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, on the 9th day of July, in the year of our Lord 1778, and in the third year of the Independence of America." Yet it is unquestionable that the articles did not take effect at the time specified on their face; and it is as unquestionable that they did take effect on the 1st day of March, 1781, as stated by me.

"The state of the case is this: It happened that on the 9th of July, 1778, the date specified in the articles, those articles were presented in Congress for the signatures of the States on that day; and, as no paper receives a formal subscription with its blanks unfilled, and those blanks were filled, and the current date was inserted in its proper place, some of the States did actually sign the articles on that day; other States signed them in part only; while some of the States did not sign them till a much later day. New Jersey, for instance, on the 26th of November following. Delaware in February and May of the following year, and Maryland, not until March 1st, 1781, *two years and near seven months* after the date of the first signing as specified on the face of the articles.

"If we turn to the journals of the old Congress, (vol. 7, page 39, Folwell's edition, published by authority,) it will appear that on the first day of March, 1781, the delegates of the State of Maryland—I quote the words of the journal—"did sign and ratify the said articles, *by which the confederation of the States of America was completed*, each and every of the thirteen United States, from New Hampshire to Georgia, both included, having adopted and confirmed, and by their delegates in Congress ratified the same, as follows: To all to whom these presents shall come, we, the undersigned delegates of the States affixed to our names send greeting: "Here follows not a clean copy of the articles with blanks to be filled up at date, but the original copy which had been filled up and signed in part on the 9th of July 1778, and at subsequent periods as above stated; which then received the signatures of the Delegates from Maryland, and which from that date, the 1st of March, 1781, became of binding force and effect. The reasons which induced the Congress to adhere to the original copy of the articles are too obvious to need repetition.

"I certainly should not have occupied your time with this investigation, if the subject were a question of curious political inquiry, but the true date when those articles went into effect, involves great and important results, which ought not to be overlooked; and which have a direct bearing upon our diplomatic relations at this juncture.

"*Let me call your attention to a single reading of this remarkable epoch in our history, which is this: That the States not in a collective, but each in its individual capacity as sovereign States, prosecuted the war of independence, made treaties of commerce, and of "alliance eventual and defensive" with the powers of Europe, and conducted all their affairs at home as well as abroad, until within a few months of the crowning victory at Yorktown, which was substantially the close of the war, without any written bond of union whatever.*

"In that long and important interval the States acted by their plenipotentiaries in Congress, and the Congress of the States was during that period identical in its nature and Constitution with that of the famous Congress, which, on the first downfall of Napoleon, held its protracted sessions at Vienna, and with that of the hardly less famous Congress, which, at a later day, was convoked at Verona.

"It is thus palpable that the several States were sovereign up to the date of the articles of Confederation; it is likewise admitted by all, and especially by England in the definitive treaty of 1783, which established what is known in diplomacy as the peace of Versailles, that those articles did not impair that sovereignty. And I have shown in my first letter that England recognized, without dispute, and as a matter of course, the right of the several States in 1789 to secede from those articles of Confederation and adopt the new Federal plan of that date, or to adhere to the old at their pleasure; and conducted simultaneously her diplomatic and commercial affairs with the States which seceded from the old plan and adopted the new, and the States that adhered to the old. It is therefore incumbent on her to show—that is impossible—some act of the several States done subsequent to the adoption of the late Federal Constitution, which tended to surrender or impair their right of changing their action, before she can be justified in the Forum of Nations in withdrawing from the United States of the South that recognition which she continues to the United States of the North. VINDICIENNES."

Is it true that the States prosecuted the war of independence, made treaties of alliance offensive and defensive, until within a few months of the close of the war, *without any written bond of union whatever?* A writer in a North Carolina Periodical for April 1854, sustains Mr. Grigsby fully, in relation to the date at which the Articles went into operation, (1st March 1781,) and supplies a concise sketch of the history of the *Associated Government*, to which the latter makes no reference. We copy it, and, as we have done in Mr. Grigsby's letter, italicise a single section:

"REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT.—The first Continental Congress met at Philadelphia on the 5th September 1774, and on the 20th October adopted *The Articles of Association* which formed the bond of union among the Colonies until they were superseded by the *Articles of Confederation*. Congress entered upon the consideration of the latter form of government on the 11th June 1776, the articles were agreed upon on the 15th November 1777, but so great was the difficulty of harmonizing the discordant views of thirteen colonies, that the Confederacy was not completed until the 1st of March 1781, when Maryland yielded her scruples, and became a member of the imperfect Union which existed during the eight succeeding years, and until the organization of the government of the United States on the 4th March 1789.

"The Revolution may be regarded as having regularly commenced with the assembling of the first Continental Congress, and as having been substantially effected under the *Articles of Association* which formed the Constitution of the Revolutionary Government and was in force from the 20th October 1774 to the 1st March 1781, a period of six years and more than four months. The Articles of Association adopted by the Continental Congress led to the adoption of subordinate Associations in all the provinces, and the establishment in North Carolina of District, County and Town committees to enforce them.

"The earliest Association formed in this State, the records of which have come down to our times, was at Wilmington on the 28d November 1774, when "at a meeting of the Freeholders in the Court House, for the purpose of choosing a committee for said town to carry more effectually into execution the Resolves of the late Congress held at Philadelphia, the following named were proposed and universally assented to: Cornelius Harnett, John Quince, Fra Clayton, William Hooper, Rob't Hogg, John Ancrum, Archibald McLaine, John Robinson, James Walker." This was probably the earliest Association organized in the province, but the example was speedily followed, by the appointment of similar committees in Newbern, Edenton, Cumberland, Rowan, Mecklenburg, Tryon, Surry and elsewhere. Of all these Revolutionary Committees, the records of the Wilmington, Rowan and Surry committees only are accessible to us, and no others we suppose to be extant. The records of the Committee of Mecklenburg were destroyed by the fire which consumed the house of the Clerk, John McNitt Alexander, on the first of April 1800, and hence the obscurity in which the Mecklenburg Declaration was so long involved. *No form of government has ever existed in North Carolina which received such universal, cheerful and ardent support as the Association and no portion of our history is more interesting than the period between its adoption and the formation of our State Constitution on the 18th Dec* 1776.

"William Hooper, Joseph Hewes and Richard Caswell were the delegates from North Carolina to the first Continental Congress, and their names were subscribed to the *Articles of Association*. They were members of the second Congress which met on the 10th May 1775."*

With the war pressure upon your columns, we do not feel at liberty to enter upon the consideration of the Right of Secession, under the Constitution of the United States, as illustrated by the supposed secession of eleven States from the Confederation—a Confederation which, according to the argument, existed on the 1st of August 1788, and consisted of the States of North Carolina and Rhode Island.

Waiving for the present all discussion upon this controverted subject, we content ourselves with presenting for more particular examination than it has hitherto received, an important event in our own history. It seems to us to supply, so far as North Carolina is concerned, more conclusive evidence of sovereignty anterior to the adoption of the Federal Constitution, than the acknowledgment contained in the Treaties with France and England.

The Convention which met at Hillsborough on the 21st July 1781, "to deliberate and determine upon the Constitution of the United States," resolved on the 1st of August, by the decisive vote of 184 to 84, "neither to ratify nor reject" the invitation of the Federal Convention "to form a more perfect union" with the people of the United States than had existed under the Articles of Confederation. What, then, was the condition of North Carolina at that period? A recurrence to her previous history may enable us to define it more clearly. On the 20th October 1774, she had entered into the *Association* with the other Colonies to resist the usurpation of the parent State. On the 18th December 1776, the Convention which framed the State Constitution declared, in the preamble to that instrument, that protection and allegiance were in their nature reciprocal, and that one should of right be refused when the other was withdrawn; that the Continental Congress have considered the premises, and declared that the Thirteen United Colonies were of right wholly absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown and free and independent States. North Carolina, with this assumption of sovereignty on her brow, was, by the Treaty of Peace with the mother country on the 3d Sept'r 1783, introduced to the family of Nations as an Independent State.

To recapitulate: As a Sovereign State she entered into *the Association*, when she threw off her Colonial dependence on Great Britain in 1774. As a sovereign State she framed her own peculiar form of *government* in 1776. As a sovereign State she adopted The Articles of Confederation in 1781. And with the full recognition of this sovereignty by the British Crown, she declined admission into the American Union in 1788. From the 1st August 1788 to the 21st November 1789, a period of more than fifteen months, she stood alone, as entirely disconnected with *The Association, the Confederation*, and the U. States, as with the Kingdom of Great Britain. At the latter date, many of her objections to *the Federal Constitution* having been removed by amendments in the nature of a Declaration of Rights, and with the hope of obtaining additional guarantees, she adopted it, but not with great unanimity. Suppose that, instead of accepting, her Convention had a second time declined the proposed form of government, no one will contend that the right to coerce submission existed in the eleven United States. That no such idea was entertained at that day among our citizens or in any of the States, is manifest from all contemporaneous history. CAROLINIENSIS.

*The following chronological references may be useful to those disposed to examine this portion of our history: *The Proprietary Government of Carolina*, under the charter of Charles the Second, existed from 1663 to 1729, (66 years.) *The Royal or Colonial Government*, from 1729 to 1774, (45 years.) *The Associated or Revolutionary Government* from 1774 to 1781, (6 years 7 months.) *The Confederation* from 1st March 1781 to 4th March 1789, (8 years;) and *the Government of the United States* under the Constitution from 4th March 1789 to 20th May 1861, (72 years.)

Stonewall Jackson's Popularity.—A few days since a lady who came through the lines at Fredericksburg, under flag of truce, brought a message from Hon. D. W. Voorhees, of Indiana, to Gen'l Jackson, to the effect that he (Stonewall) was the only man living who could beat him (Voorhees) in his Congressional district, so great is the admiration of the distinguished chieftain in the Northwest.—*Richmond Dispatch, 10th.*

DEATH OF A SOLDIER.—In Johnston county, Serg't Louis B. Wooten, aged 27.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

In the Senate, on Monday, Bills were passed as they came from the House: Authorising the Governor to call out the militia; authorizing repairs in Treasurer's office; incorporating Shelby and Broad River railroad; in favor of Jas. Marshall; exempting from militia duty all over 45 years of age.

In the Commons, on Monday, a select committee reported that the Deaf & Dumb Asylum could not do the printing, that the materials could not be had to enable it to do so, and that if they could be had it would probably be to the injury of the pupils to have the work executed there. The same committee, charged with an inquiry as to frauds by the late printer, John Spelman, reported that no evidence supporting a charge of fraud had been brought before them.

Bills and resolutions were passed: to amend the Revised Code relative to live stock; to incorporate Yadkin Valley and Western Connection Rail Road; in favor of the W. and W. Railroad; in favor of L. L. Clements; in favor of A. A. Wiseman; incorporating the Vestal Ford Toll Bridge Company; in favor of H. Hunter; to compel officers to certify on honor as to the citizenship of members of their Company on muster rolls for bounty; to amend the charter of Pittsboro'; in favor of Mrs. P. P. Dick; in favor of J. G. Carraway; concerning insane persons; to amend Revised Code relative to binding out of free children of color; in favor of E. M. Welborne; authorising the principal clerk of each House to employ such additional engrossing clerks as may be necessary; to amend the charter of Pittsboro' and Haywood Plank Road Company; in favor of J. W. Freeman; concerning the Statute of Limitations.

Mr. Shepherd's bill to incorporate an Iron Works company, noted in a late Observer, was amended and passed.

The House concurred in the report of Conference committee on Revenue Bill recommending an amendment that slaves be assessed by those who assess land.

Death of Capt. Duvall, U. S. N.—Capt. Robt. Duvall died in Raleigh on the 4th inst., aged 45 years. He was born in the County of Iredell, North Carolina, and graduated at the Naval School, at Annapolis, being number 7 in his class. He was commissioned as Midshipman in 1841. He served in the Mediterranean and Pacific squadrons, and was under Commodore Stockton during the Mexican war, and was in command as a volunteer of a portion of the American forces in the battles of Los Angelos and San Gabriel. At the commencement of the present war, having promptly taken his stand on the side of his native South, he fitted out and commanded the naval steamer Beaufort, and fought most gallantly the first naval battle of the war, on the 21st July, 1861, in the waters of North Carolina. His only full brother, A. S. Duvall, died from the effects of wounds received at Monterey and Cerro Gordo; and one of his half brothers, Adjutant Cowles, was killed while gloriously leading the charge of the 38th North Carolina regiment at the battle of Mechanicsville. The deceased was a step son of Josiah Cowles, Esq., of Yadkin. He had been unfitted for service for the last year or so, by an incurable disease. Capt. Duvall was a chivalrous, generous, high toned gentleman, and leaves many friends to deplore his death.—*Ral. Standard.*

North Carolina.—A correspondent sends us the following, which he characterizes as a "cure for desertion":

Lately a young soldier, named R——, from Ashe county, N. C., slipped off from his regiment and succeeded in safely making his way home. On reaching the paternal roof, his father told him he could not stay there; he must return immediately to the army of his country and stand by his noble companions in arms! Upon the young man asking for only a few days' rest, the father replied, no! You must start back in the morning and I will myself go with you to see that you are again at your post—now the only post of honor!

The next morning found them both making their way through the rugged mountains of Western North Carolina, bound for Richmond.

Gov. Vance, of North Carolina, has commenced investigating the conduct of the shoe manufacturers of the State and in every case where the provisions of the exemption law have been disregarded, the offenders having failed to confine their profits to seventy-five per cent., he has caused the employers and all their workmen to be conscripted. Three of the largest establishments in the State have been closed in consequence of this proceeding and all hands sent to camps of instruction. The result is a great decline in the price of leather, when manufactured throughout the State. These things will bear a little looking into in the other States.

Cure for Virulent Small Pox, Scarlatina and Measles.—A merchant and ship-owner of Boston has had the following recipe sent to him from England, where it was furnished by Mr. L. Larkin, member of the Royal College of Surgeons, who vouches for it as "a medicine that will effect a revolution in the healing art, as regards the prevention and cure, not only of small pox but also of measles and scarlatina, however malignant the type, in a manner more efficient and extraordinary than could ever have been anticipated even by the most ardent philanthropist:"

On the first appearance of fever or irritation ushering in attacks, whether occurring in families or large communities, the subjoined mode of treatment should at once be entered on: Take one grain each of powdered foxglove or digitals, (valuable in the ratio of its greenness—the dark should be rejected) and one of sulphate of zinc, (this article is commonly known as white vitriol.) These should be rubbed thoroughly in a mortar or other convenient vessel, with four or five drops of water; this done, a noggin (or about four ounces) more, with some syrup or sugar, should be added. Of this mixture a tablespoonful should be given an adult, and two teaspoonfuls to a child every second hour, until all symptoms of disease vanish. Thus conducted, convalescence, as if by magic, will result.

The rapidity of an event so auspicious will equally delight and astonish. It may, however, be necessary further to note, that should the bowels become obstructed, in progress of the disease—an evil by no ways common—then a drachm of the compound powder of Jalap, (formed of two parts cream of tartar, with one of jalap,) and one grain of the herb, treated as above, formed into a pastil with syrup or sugar, should be given to an adult, and half the quantity to a child. This simple medicine shuts out every other form or article whatever, as totally unnecessary, if not pernicious.

The *methodus medendi* of these medicines, capable of effecting results so gigantic, remain now only to be given, and appear to be as follows: The herb, by its anti-febrile properties, lays hold at once of the fever, the prolific source of woe, which it immediately strangles while the zinc acts the part of tonic, instantly restoring the equilibrium.

Mr. Larkin adds:

No emigrant or government vessels should hereafter be allowed to put to sea without a few pence worth of these protectors; and it is further ardently hoped that the dearest interests of our common humanity are so vitally involved in this discovery, the press of all countries will give publicity to this announcement.

The result of the operations in the first month of the new year proves rather disastrous to the enemy. The Mobile Register, in reviewing the losses sustained by the Yankees says:

"In the matter of steamers alone, their losses amount to nine transports and one gunboat destroyed on the Cumberland river; one transport destroyed on the Mississippi; the Harriet Lane, the John P. Stone and Columbia captured; the Westfield blown up at Galveston; the Hatteras sunk in the Gulf—total 16, of which six are men of-war of one kind or another; and of these two if not three have been added to our little navy. To these must be added the Brooklyn, the Quaker City, the turret-bearing iron-clad in the attack on Fort McAlister, and a gunboat on the Cumberland, more or less crippled, besides what damage has not yet been reported which may have been done by the Alabama, the Florida and "the man that struck Billy Patterson"—that is, the cruiser that sunk the Hatteras. This is rather faster than the Yankees can build steamers, and if we can only keep on at the same rate a while longer, their naval resources will show a sensible diminution.

"Besides havoc made in the Yankee fleet, we have the recapture of Galveston, and the raising of the blockade at that port; a locomotive and cars destroyed within their lines in Tennessee; the marauding expedition up the Teche foiled, with the loss of the commander; prisoners and spoils dragged away from their camp in Murfreesboro'; the occupation of Woodbury; the repulse of their cavalry at Carthage, Tn.; the break down of their second attempt to cross the Rappahannock; the repulse at Fort McAlister; the raising of the blockade of Charleston; and possibly the capture of Springfield, Mo., to add to the list of our successes and Yankee disasters for the month; while on the other side is the repulse in the second action on Stone's river, and the retreat from Murfreesboro'; the repulse of our cavalry at Woodbury; the capture of the Post of Arkansas and Duval's Bluff; and the capture of a ferry boat below Vicksburg. The balance sheet is a very satisfactory one on our side.

"The Yankees have also captured a valuable steamer attempting to run the blockade, and possibly some small craft; and in the meantime six steamers and three schooners have reached our ports in safety, and the Florida has commenced a career of depredation upon their commerce.

"How all these blows have told upon our enemies the exchange and cotton quotations in the New York market declare. Here is the statement: January 4th, gold, 134¾, cotton 70c.; 5th, exchange 143¾; 9th, gold 136; 10th, gold 133; 13th gold, 144; 15th, gold 148; 16th, 146¾; exchange 161, cotton 72@72½c; 19th, cotton 78c.; 21st, gold 147½, exchange 163, cotton 76; 27th, gold 152½, exchange 166; 29th, gold 153, exchange 169½, cotton 80c.

The rate of exchange in Wall street is now where it was with us at the fall of New Orleans on the 26th of April last; at the close of the year it corresponded with the rate here about the 20th of last February, after the surrender of Fort Donelson—that is, has gone up as much at the North in one month as it did in two months at the South, with this important difference—that among the Yankees this state of things affects an extensive business, while our commerce was but nominal.

"Since the above was written we find the following in the Houston Telegraph, dated "Sabine Pass, Jan. 4th." Add the Dan to the list:

"Editor Telegraph:—Dear Sir—The 'terrible gunboat Dan,' the flag ship of the squadron composing the blockading fleet off Sabine, is no more. At 5 o'clock a party of ten men, composed of Sergeant Conner, privates Spencer, Straim, Berwick, Davis, Richardson, Crider, Bolin and Radleff, boarded her under the guns of the fleet, removed what was of value, and set fire to her. The fleet supposed that the "Grand Army of the Neches" and gunboat flotilla was upon them, and so they hoisted sail and skedaddled, leaving the Dan to her fate."

Milroy at Winchester.—A letter written from the neighborhood of Winchester, on the 25th of last month, represents Milroy to be a "second Beast Butler" in his treatment of the inhabitants of that unfortunate town. The flooring, doors, windows—in short, all the wood-work of unoccupied buildings, has been carried off and burned, or otherwise used for the purposes of the Yankee camp, and the beautiful church edifices of the town are being despoiled and stripped in the same way, as well as those in the neighboring village of Kernstown. Their ravages have also extended to the country houses, the floors and sleepers of which have been torn up and carried off, and the stables and out-houses of a number of citizens have been wholly destroyed. Those of the negro population who had remained faithful during the former occupation of the town by the Yankees are either being seduced or coerced from the service of their owners, and carried off.

Few towns in the Confederacy have suffered more since the commencement of the war than Winchester. Its inhabitants have lost all save their honor, which they have preserved, and will preserve, untarnished amid the fires of persecution to which they are subjected.

Nor are the true and loyal people of the neighboring county suffering less severely than those of Winchester. Not only are their horses, cattle, and provisions being violently seized and taken from them, but the barns and stables of the farmers—some of them large and expensive wooden structures—are being torn down and carried to the enemy's camp at Winchester, where they are used as fuel, or in building huts for the accommodation of their men. Gentlemen in the country are being arrested upon the slightest and most trivial pretexts, taken to the town, and after being confined for two or three days in loathsome guard-houses are condescendingly permitted to return to their homes, but with loss of their horses.—*Dis.*

Desertions from the Yankee Army.—The demoralization in the Yankee Army appears to be wide-spread and increasing. A day or two ago the telegraph told the story of its ravages in Banks's command, and from ladies who arrived in this city by the central train yesterday evening, from Loudoun county, we learn that scarcely a day passes without witnessing scores of "fighting Joe's" chivalric warriors wending their way homeward. About ten days ago several hundred of them, armed, crossed the Potomac, avowing their determination to do so if it had to be accomplished with powder and ball. However much the Yankees may have seemed disposed to fight *for* the negro, they don't seem to relish the *odor* of fighting with him.

We also learn that in Washington city, caricatures are posted in numerous public places, representing a greased pole, with Richmond at the top and Burnside endeavoring to climb it, with the assistance of Seward, Stanton and Old Abe, who are vigorously pushing, but with each new effort falling back. The people of that city are also represented as being much bolder in their denunciations of the Administration and the war than ever before. The odoriferous nigger is having his effect; the Lincoln regime is smelling bad in the nostrils of the people.—*Richmond Dispatch, 10th.*

Deserters Coming in from the Enemy.—JACKSON, MISS., Feb. 8.—Deserters from the Federal army are constantly arriving within our lines. Numbers of them have taken the oath of allegiance.

FROM THE NORTH.

The N. Y. Herald of the 5th and the N. Y. Times of the 6th have reached Richmond and Petersburg.

The news of the Charleston affair had been received at the North through Southern papers, and the yankees are busy discussing its effect on the blockade. The Herald thus concludes a long editorial, full of citations from Blockade decisions:

"From the foregoing extracts from the works of the learned Thebans on international law, it is is evident that contradictory opinions are entertained as to what constitutes a defeasance or raising of the blockade. The question, however—not intrinsically perhaps, but as a handle to foreign powers to extend our present imbroglio, so that they may become active and declared abettors against us, as they have long furtively been—is an all important one, and demands the earnest attention of the Government."

The Herald does not believe that the blockade has been broken; but says if Europe maintains that it has been, the South will be rendered unconquerable. It says the best way to dispose of the question is "to assault that hot-bed of rebellion by such a force as will insure its speedy capture."

The New York Times learns authoritatively from Washington that there has been no interruption of the Charleston blockade, and that no such assumption will be admitted by the Lincoln Government. The Times learns also that an attack upon Charleston is momentarily expected, when the blockade will probably be raised in a manner not at all agreeable to the rebels.

The Yankee News from Vicksburg.—The Herald's correspondent says the high water at the present time has demonstrated most fully the impracticability of the canal dug last summer for the purpose of turning the course of the river so as to leave Vicksburg several miles inland. The canal is apparently a failure. Water is now running through, it is true, but so does water run across many of the long points in this curious river. The main channel still follows the old bed around Vicksburg, and the most that can be expected is that a *shute* will be formed, *i. e.*, a narrow stream running behind an island and sometimes navigable in high water.

The Herald's correspondent writing from Memphis says the prospect that Grant will receive aid from below in the contemplated attack on Vicksburg is extremely doubtful, and says while Grant and Sherman will do all that men can, if there is a failure, let the blame rest where it belongs.

From Fort Donelson.—The Herald of the 5th says the attack on Fort Donelson, which we reported yesterday, resulted in the entire defeat of the Rebels. At the commencement of the action the enemy took four of our guns at a charge, vigorously and gallantly made, but the Federals re-took them, killing one hundred and thirty-five Rebels and wounding fifty. Among the latter Gen. Forrest.

CAIRO, Feb. 5.—A despatch from Fort Donelson to-night says that the fight lasted from 1 to 8 o'clock in the evening, when the rebels retired southward in great disorder. Their killed is estimated at 200, and wounded at 500. Our loss was two killed, and 41 wounded and missing.

New Jersey.—New Jersey has given notice that she will not be responsible for any portion of money to compensate emancipation in Missouri and other States, and for organizing and drafting the militia of the several States.

Congress.—In the Senate, on the 4th, resolutions looking to a war with France were tabled by a vote of 36 to 9.

From the Southwest.—JACKSON, Feb. 7.—A Government Ordnance Agent who escaped, reports that the Federal gunboat Queen of the West, which passed the Vicksburg batteries, went below and up Red river, capturing the steamer A. W. Taylor loaded with sugar and molasses, having thirty Confederate Officers on board, nine of whom escaped; the steamer Moro with 180,000 lbs. of pork for Port Hudson; also the steamer Berwick Bay, with 200 barrels of flour and one hundred bales of cotton. The Queen of the West mounts 12 rifled twelve pounders and carries a crew of one hundred and fifty picked men, under Col. Ellicott. She was struck twenty times, but being cotton clad was little injured. She has returned to Vicksburg without her prizes, which are probably re-captured or destroyed.

From Charleston.—CHARLESTON, Feb. 8.—The British Consul sailed yesterday on the British war steamer Cadmus. From the officers of that steamer we learn that the results of the late naval engagement were much less substantial than was supposed. No Yankee vessel was sunk. The Mercedita is at Port Royal, whither she was towed in a disabled condition. The impression among her crew that she was sinking, was caused by water making into the hold from her boilers, which were perforated by shot. The Yankee gunboats Quaker City and Keystone State were also struck and badly damaged. There were several killed and wounded on each of these three vessels. The impression prevails among the officers of the blockading squadron that Savannah will be attacked before Charleston.

Capture off Sabine Pass.—RICHMOND, Feb. 9.—A dispatch from Gen. Magruder to the Secretary of War, says that Major O. M. Watkins, in command of the expedition against the enemy at Sabine Pass, reports that he captured "thirteen guns, property worth a million of dollars, and one hundred and nine prisoners." Our rams were at sea off the Sabine Pass "waiting for new comers." *Examiner.*

The Kentucky Legislature.—MOBILE, Feb. 7. A despatch to the Advertiser from McMinnsville, 6th inst., states that the Nashville Union of the 20th says that the Kentucky Legislature has passed an amendment to the Military Bill instructing the Kentucky troops not to enforce the President's proclamation. The vote was 61 yeas, 15 nays.

CHATTANOOGA, Feb. 8.—Thornton F. Marshall, of the Kentucky Legislature, has introduced resolutions which declare that Kentucky favors an armistice. The Louisville Journal, of 2d inst., favors a proposition of conference between the Kentucky Legislature and Northern Legislatures, to see what shall be done.

From Tennessee.—McMINNVILLE, Feb. 8.—Col. Martin, of Morgan's brigade, with 100 men, attacked Reynolds' Division on yesterday, killing and wounding 25 of the enemy, and burning a number of wagons with provisions.

Yankee Fleet at Port Royal.—CHARLESTON, Feb. 9.—A Yankee fleet was in Port Royal harbor on Saturday. The fleet comprised 52 transports, 15 large war steamers and 4 or 5 iron-clads. Evidently some grand movement is at hand.

Wreck of Steamer Florida.—JACKSON, Feb. 8.—A dispatch to the Crisis from Grenada, announces on the authority of Northern papers, that the Confederate steamer Florida has been wrecked off Cardenas.

Captured.—The schooner Industry, from Nassau for this port, was taken and burnt last week by the blockaders. We think she was destroyed not far from Topsail Inlet. The officers and crew escaped. The Industry had a cargo of salt.

Wil. Jour. 9th inst.

Purchases of Cotton and Tobacco by the Government.—We have obtained the following statement of the purchases of cotton already made by the several agents of the Government, up to the date of their last reports:

Purch's in Miss.,	38,212 bales, cost'g	$1,887,159	30
" Alabama,	21,545 "	1,735,668	91
" Georgia,	6,281 "	499,172	88
" S. Carolina,	2,446 "	252,760	77
" Arkansas,	1,023 "	100,218	62
Total,	69,507 bales, cost'g	$4,474,440	87

Of the above amount, so far as the reports of agents show, $48,026 76 have been paid in cash, and the remainder in bonds. No reports from Louisiana, Texas and Florida have yet been received, and no reports from any of the agents for the month of December have reached the office in Richmond, but it is estimated from letters received, that not less than 250,000 bales, including the number in the above statement, have up to this time, been already purchased for the use of the Government.

The average price paid on the purchases reported is about 13½ cents per pound, varying in different States, the average being lowest in Mississippi and Arkansas. The prices to be paid hereafter will be, without doubt, considerably higher.

Two forms of cotton certificates have been issued, one proposing to deliver the cotton to the holder at a fixed price after the declaration of peace, and the other authorizing him, at an agreed price, to export the cotton, at any time, from the Confederate States to any neutral port, on complying with the requisitions of the law. Certificates of the former class, amounting to one million five hundred thousand dollars, have already been transmitted to the depository of the Confederate States at Liverpool.

No purchases of tobacco, under the act of April 21st, have been made until very recently. A beginning, however, has, at length, been made, and one hundred and twenty-eight hogheads, costing $38,970 17, have been purchased.—*Exam'r.*

A. T. Stewart Buying all the Cotton Goods.—The New York correspondent of the Boston Journal, writes to that paper as follows:

Mr. Alexander T. Stewart, the dry goods millionaire of this city, has refused to sell cotton goods at any price. He has been recently engaged in buying up all the goods he could purchase. Empty stores have been taken, warehouses rented, and filled to the rafters with goods. This done, he closes sales, and waits for coming events. It is well known that Mr. Stewart's connection with the government is such that he has early information of changes to take place, of movements to be made, and the signs of the times are within his vision. He has had the monopoly of one kind of goods for which the sale has been great, and the past year has been to him probably the most successful year he has ever known. Over fifteen millions dellars' worth of goods he has sold within the year 1862, and when he holds up and refuses to sell a class of goods, men begin to open their eyes. If we have a battle and do not win, cotton goods will run up like gold.

Camp Anecdotes.—A correspondent of the Eutaw Whig and Observer, writes thus from Fredericksburg:

A young, stout, hale, hearty young man in a S. C. regiment, went to Gen. Lee a few days ago, for the purpose of getting a furlough, when the following amusing incident took place:

[Gen. Lee.] Sir, do you know the position of a soldier?

[Soldier.] (Saluting the General) I do sir.

[Gen. Lee.] Assume the position of a soldier I want to see if you can execute two or three orders as I give them.

[Soldier.] (Squaring himself, facing the General, putting his heels together.) I am in the position of a soldier now, sir.

[Gen. Lee.] (Viewing him closely and scrutinizing his position) said: "About face, forward, march!" (and never said halt.)

The following amusing incident took place in the 5th Alabama regiment, I am told, with a lately enrolled conscript and Gen. Rhodes:

The General was riding around his brigade, and came up with the conscript, who had taken his gun in pieces for the purpose of cleaning and rubbing it up.

[Gen. Rhodes.] "What are you doing, sir? What are you, anyhow?"

[Conscript.] "I am a sort of sentinel. What are you, anyhow?"

Gen. Rhodes.] I am a sort of General."

[Conscript.] "Well, General, if you will hold on, I will show, or give you a sort of salute."

[Gen. Rhodes.] "Well, sir, you hold on a while, and I will show you a sort of guardhouse."

The last we heard of the conscript, Gen Rhodes had him in the guardhouse at his headquarters, bucked and gagged.

Joe Hooker.—We have heard a little item about "Fighting Jo," which is rather good. Some one asked a Confederate General, whose name we do not feel at liberty to mention in this connection, if he knew any thing about "Fighting Jo." "Fighting Hell," he replied. "Once when we were at West Point together I kicked him out of my room, and all he said was "Tut! Tut! what're you about!" This is *authentic.*

Richmond Whig.

VALUABLE LAND FOR SALE.

I OFFER for sale my plantation on Cape Fear River, 5 miles from the Village of Summerville, Harnett county, containing 1,175 Acres, of which about 350 acres is cleared, including 100 acres of very fine bottom land. The improvements consist of a good dwelling with 10 rooms and necessary out buildings.

A. M McKAY.

Summerville, Jan'y 22. 97*4tpd

640 Acres of Valuable Land for Sale!

THE subscriber offers for sale, Six Hundred and Forty acres of land in Talladega County, Alabama, situated near the line of Coosa and Talladega Counties, about sixteen miles from the rail road, leading from Talladega town to Selma, and three from the rail road which is now in progress of building,—leading from Opalaca to Selma. These lands are most admirably adapted to the cultivation of cotton, corn, wheat, &c., yielding from fifty to sixty bushels of corn, and from forty to fifty of wheat per acre, with other products in a like proportion. There are on the premises, a comfortable dwelling, and all other necessary out houses; also a cotton gin, grist mill and threshing machine. There are about One Hundred acres of cleared land, fifty of which are bottom lands, besides two hundred and fifty acres more of never-failing bottom lands, which could be prepared for cultivation at a very trifling expense. It is well watered, lying on each side of Hatchet creek, which is a perennial failing stream, and capable of turning almost any amount of machinery. As to health, it is unsurpassed by any place in the State.

The above lands present every inducement for persons wishing to remove west; or to those who may wish to engage in the business of manufacturing; or to such as may wish to remove their families out of the reach of our invading foe.

Persons desiring further information respecting said lands, can apply to Mr. David Murphy, Fayetteville N. C., or to Mr. Daniel C. McNeill, St Paul's P. O., Robeson County, N. C.

Persons wishing to purchase will please address me at "Fair Play P. O." Robeson County, N. C.

M. McNAIR.

Nov. 21st, 1862. 82*tf

Cards! Cards!!

JOHN GAINEY is prepared to upset and work over old Cotton and Woolen Cards. The Cards repaired by him will amply satisfy the owner of said Cards, as the charges for the repairs are moderate. Send your Cards and they will be attended to. He can be found in Sampson county, near Warrenville Post Office.

Jan'y 24, 1863. 97*4tpd